# STARS STRIPES.

Rams. others get help to reach postseason

**Report: Bomber** at Mosul base was a Saudi



**Ashanti** flourishes amid label's unrest

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Volume 63, No. 260 © SS 2004

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2005

Former presidents head U.S. aid effort

Elder Bush, Clinton tapped; Navy ups relief for tsunami victims Pages 7-9





Left: U.S. Navy helicopter crewmen from the USS Abraham Lincoln try to restrain survivors as they ruggle to distribute food and water. The mission Monday was to an isolated village south of Banda Aceh in northwest Indonesia. ed evacuee at the airport in Banda Aceh. As it sed its death toll from last week's earthquake and tsunami to almost 100,000, Indonesia said it plans to team with its neighbors to establish an early warning system for disasters.

# STARS STRIPES. COMING SOON



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# Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

#### World

Italy mob war: Two men were gunned down in Naples over the weekend, raising fears that the deadly mob war that has plagued the southern Ital-

ian city will continue into the new year. A third man died from injuries sustained during a mob shooting days earlier, authori-

ties said.

More than 130 people were killed in the Naples region last year, most of them in mob vio-

Investigators say the violence stems from conflict within the Camorra's Di Lauro clan, which has splintered and is locked in a turf war over the control of drug trafficking.

Afghan-Pakistan border clash: Afghanistan ordered extra troops to its border with Pakistan after an exchange of artillery and mortar fire with Pakistani troops on the other side, an Afghan general said Monday. Gen. Khial Baz. commander of a militia di-

Gen. Khial Baz, commander of a militia division in the eastern province of Khost, said he had reports of Pakistani troops moving toward the mountainous frontier, and that he had ordered his men to also reinforce Afghan border posts.

He wouldn't say how many Afghan troops were being mobilized or when they would leave their barracks. Baz said several artillery rounds whistled

Baz said several artillery rounds whistled over the border into Khost's Gurbuz district on Monday morning. No casualties were reported.

Gunfire in northern Kosovo: Two parked U.N. vehicles were damaged Monday after being hit by gunfire in northern Kosovo, police said. No one was injured. Seven rounds hit the two vehicles, which

Seven rounds hit the two vehicles, which were parked unattended at a police station, which was also hit, in the town of Zubin Potok, 38 miles northwest of the province's capital, Pristina, a police statement said. An investigation has been launched.

### States

Holiday travel nightmare: More than 100 US Airways executives and other employ-ees volunteered to serve coffee and snack, sort and move bags and help passengers find their way Sunday at Philadelphia International Airport to try to avoid a repeat of the bank-runt carrier's Christmas weekend debacle.

The airline reported no problems by late Sunday afternoon, when about half the day's expected 38,000 passengers had boarded their flights or claimed their bags. The volume was comparable with the Christmas and Thanksgiving travel peaks.

Around Christmas, hundreds of flights were canceled and thousands of bags piled up in what the airline's chief executive, Bruce Lakefield, called an "operational meltdown" that stranded holiday travelers and prompted a federal investigation. Airline



Gaza withdrawal: An Israeli border policeman gives instructions as officers scuffle with Jewish settlers while dismantling an illegal structure at an outpost outside the Jewish settlement of Yitzhar, near the West Bank town of Nablus, on Monday, Some 100 settlers who came from other settlements confronted police and army trying to evacuate two caravans from the illegal outpost while lewish settler leaders warned that hundreds, and possibly thousands, of soldiers could refuse to carry out orders to evict Gaza Strip settlers, a sign of the difficulties the army could face in carrying out the Gaza withdrawal planned by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

management blamed the problems on unexpected numbers of flight attendants and baggage handlers calling in sick, while employees' unions blamed poor planning by management.

Algerian deported: A man who met with two Sept. 11 hijackers before they crashed an American Airlines jet into the Pentagon has been deported to Algeria, the Department of Homeland Security said Friday.

Samir Abdoun, 38, was arrested 11 days after the 2001 attacks and convicted of immigration and passport violations and Social Security fraud, officials said. He remained in U.S. custody until arrangements could be worked out with the Algerian government.

Armed federal agents escorted Abdoun onto a commercial flight Thursday in San Diego; he arrived Friday in Algeria, where authorities took him into custody, said Lauren Mack, a department spokeswoman.

Young mayor: One of the youngest mayors in the country has resigned three years into his four-year term to pursue opportunities outside the state.

Chris Portman, who was 19 when he took office in Mercer three years ago, announced his resignation in a letter dated Dec. 28. He said nothing further about why he was leaving.

Portman's election drew the national spot-

light to Mercer, a borough of 2,400 people about 55 miles north of Pittsburgh. He met financier Donald Trump and President Bush, and was featured in Rolling Stone magazine and on MTV.

### War on terrorism

Soldiers return: With family members cheering, more than 700 U.S. National Guard soldiers were welcomed home in an emotional ceremony after a 15-month tour of duty, including more than nine months on the ground in Iraq.

Dressed in desert fatigues, members of the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry of the New York Army National Guard marched into Ma-Grath Gymnasium at Fort Drum on Sunday night and came to a halt

might, and came to a han.

The unit was the first New York Guard infantry organization ordered to federal active duty for wartime service since World War II, replacing mostly active duty combat units al-

ready in Iraq.

The battalion performed security, raids and other offensive operations, capturing numerous weapons caches. The soldiers also helped train new Iraqi National Guard members and provided medical, logistical and civil support to Iraqi villages, schools, mosques and families.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

### **TODAY IN STRIPES**

### Corrections

- A story in the Jan. 2 edition recounting the major events of 2004 erroneously reported the number of homes destroyed by hurricanes in Florida. The four major storms of 2004 destroyed 25,000 homes, not 2,500.
- A story in Sunday's edition about a soldier convicted of possessing child pornography contained incorrect information. The soldier, Spc. Anthony C. Haddock, was assigned to Troop T, 4th Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Comics, horoscopes, advice — every day in Stars and Stripes







Note above is humal Perceitage Pale. Sourchas on all Pall VIV and subject to though which was to be the properties of the pall Whose made can be so as to some distributed by the surreal could workthese of each applicant. More by a member of SCU or eighthe for membership is applica. Rate shown effects a 35 sades point reduction for milliory direct deposit and selection of the autorisal can pursue country. I canaghe 4.37% APR less 35 beads which a 35th APR (10) of a validable on current. CU learns which quality for different lates of 250 feet in the CU of the country of the different lates of 250 feet in the CU of the country of the current.

# **Pledging aid from afar**

### Members of U.S. military communities in Europe raise money for tsunami victims in South Asia

Stare and Strings

While an international outpouring of support is going to tsunami victims from online donations, some people from U.S. military communities in Europe are also doing their part to raise a little money for disaster relief efforts.

Roger Walker, a third-grader at Darmstadt Elementary School, went door-to-door in his Santa Barbara housing area in Germany to collect "pocket change" from the children of the house

Walker, 9, said seeing the devastation in the countries hit by the tsunami compelled him to spend New Year's Day pounding the

"I was watching the news and saw all these hurting people who don't have any money, and I thought it would be a good idea to give them money.'

Collecting only from other kids, Walker raised \$114 and 38 euro

"I figured that the adults would be asked elsewhere, like at the office or the unit," Walker said. "I knocked on the door and asked if it was OK for the kids to donate their pocket change. The parents all said it was OK, and the kids gave me 50 cents or \$1 or \$20, or whatever they had.'

At the Rhein-Main Air Base commissary in Germany, head bagger Yupa Conway donated three days' wages totaling \$660 and 40 euro.

Conway, the wife of a Stars and Stripes employee, initially put out a donation box, but the commissary management said it would make the customers uncomfortable and they may feel obligated to give more than they normally would have given for a tip. Instead, Conway donated all of

her tips.

"I am from Thailand, and my cousin still lives on the beach [where the tsunami hit]," she said, "I was scared, but we know



MICHAEL ARRAMS/Stars and Strin

Above: Roger Walker, a third-grader at Darmstadt Elementary School. went door to door at the Santa Barbara housing area in Germany and collected \$114 and 38 euros from fellow children for tsunami victims Right: Yupa Conway, head bagger at the Rhein-Main Air Base commissary in Germany, donated three days' wages totaling \$660 and 40 euros to the earthquake and tsunami victims in Thailand

now that she is safe." beach

where her cous-

in lives every

year. They last

visited in July.

damage that

was done there

said. "I want to

help the best

that I can. I

feel I have to

try to heln

The money

raised will be

sent directly to

the Thai am-

Conway

makes me

them."

"All of the

has a routing and account num-Conway and her family visit ber for people to donate money

> 44 I was watching the news and saw all these hurting people who don't have any money, and I thought it would be a good idea to give

> > them money. Roger Walker

Darmstadt Elementary student

bassador to the United States in assistant Washington, D.C. The embassy

Web site (www.thaiembdc.org)

"All we are taking right now is

account. In Bamberg, Ger many, the American Red Cross office ceived many calls Monday from people who wanted to donate money or

through

clothing,

said Jenni-

fer Pittard,

field office

their bank

donations of money, because what the people there need is food and water - the basics," Pit-She added that monetary dona-

tions could be made at any local field office of the American Red Cross on any military installation, and the money goes directly to tsunami and earthquake victims. Donations can be made online

at www.redcross.org. The Web site also has a link for anyone seeking information on friends or family who were in the area when the earthquake and tsunami hit. At Bamberg Elementary

School, teachers were to hold a faculty meeting after school Monday - the first day back from winter break — to discuss some of the options for students who were interested in helping tsunami vicWith many Web pages offering

links to make donations for tsunami victims, charitable organizations already have received millions of dollars to support the re-

lief effort But the efforts of people such as Conway and Walker put more than a little heart behind the money they raise to help the hungry and homeless in the wake of

one of the worst natural disasters in modern history. "I feel kind of proud that I thought about this myself and that I did something to help peo-

ple who lost everything there. Walker said. "I feel good a little bit," Con-way said. "I know this is not

much, but I feel so happy to be able to do something to help."

E-mail Rick Emert at: emertr@mail.estripes.osd.mil

### Survey: Women at Naval Academy feeling better about surroundings emy are female. A total of 2,777 midship-

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - Women at the Naval Academy are feeling more at home at the military college, according to the latest survey of midshipmen

The anonymous survey, administered by the academy annually since 1994, shows female midshipmen are more at ease in their relationships with male midshipmen, feel safer at their coed dorms and are less him dered by concerns of sexual harassment.

"We're hopeful it reflects a greater level of comfort and less angst between men and women in the brigade," said Vice Adm. Rodney Rempt, superintendent of the acad-

About 16 percent of students at the acad-

men, including 443 women, took the survey in October; 3,125 upperclassmen were eligible. The findings, recently presented to the school's oversight board, were reported Sunday by The (Baltimore) Sun

The survey showed student satisfaction with the academy rose to 90 percent. That's compared with 83 percent in 2003, a year that saw the resignation of superintendent Vice Adm. Richard Naughton and several high-profile allegations of sexual as-

Overall, military experts said the results indicate a widespread shift in the attitudes of male combat leaders during a time of

"I think women are finally getting more

respect from the men in the military because they are proving themselves in the war in Iraq," said Lory Manning, a retired Navy captain with the Washington-based Women's Research and Education Insti-

"Because of this, some of the sexist attitudes are being done away with

The survey asked midshipmen about dating, academics, safety, harassment and other aspects of life at the academy.

Of the women who responded, 90 percent said they accept dating between midshipmen, up from 51 percent in 2003 Among male midshipmen, 71 percent reported an acceptance of interbrigade dating, compared with 47 percent in 2003.

Ninety-seven percent of the women said

they feel safe sleeping in the school's coed dorm, up from 87 percent four years ago. Seven percent said sexual harassment has impeded their development at the school. down from 13 percent in 2003.

Of the respondents, 0.5 percent — the equivalent of 14 midshipmen — said they have been forced to engage in sexual activity against their will, down from more than ouble that number in 2000. The anonymous reports aren't supported by any crim-inal reports filed in the past year. The academy's report didn't give a male-female breakdown for that question.

Although racial attitudes have improved overall, 17 percent of the black respondents said racial prejudice has impeded their development as midshipmen, up from 12 percent in 2003.

# Airman found guilty of drug charges Retired sub crewman of

BY KENT HARRIS Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — An airman assigned to the 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was found guilty on drug charges in a special court-martial last month.

a special court-martial last month.

Airman 1st Class Jerrene Sansom pleaded guilty to charges of wrongful use of cocaine

and wrongful distribution of cocaine. She also pleaded guilty of wrongful use of methamphet-

Charges of wrongful distribution of methamphetamine and conspiracy to possess cocaine were dropped as part of a pre-trial agreement.

She was sentenced to 12 months confinement and forfeiture of all pay. Sansom was also reduced in rank to E-1 and given a bad-conduct discharge.

Sansom is the seventh airman to be sentenced on drug charges at the northern Italy air base over the last several months following the culmination of a drug sting in December 2003

More trials are scheduled this month.

### crewman of doomed USS Thresher dies

The Associated Press

CHESTER, N.H. — For years after the USS Thresher failed to surface from a deep dive off the New England coast, Raymond McCoole said he might have been able to save the submarine — and the 129 crewmembers who period of the said of the

ished with it.

McCoole, who died on New
Year's Day at 75, was the boat's
reactor control officer. He was ordered off the vessel two hours before it sailed that last time, on
April 9, 1963. His wife had injured her eyes and needed emergency medical treatment.

The submarine, which was on routine peacetime maneuvers, sank the next day in 8,400 feet of water in the Atlantic Ocean, about 220 miles away from Cape Cod, Mass. Navy officials believe the problem was a weak pipe joint in the nuclear submarine, which was built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, and launched in 1960.

Maine, and launched in 1960.

A hole opened up in the pipe, letting a stream of high-pressure seawater into the engine room. The electrical system short-circuited, shutting down the nuclear reactor, Navy investigators believe. Then, when the captain tried to empty seawater from ball last tanks that system failed.

last tanks, that system failed.

As the submarine sank, water pressure crushed the vessel.

McCoole said had he been on board, his experience would have prompted him not to follow standard procedure, perhaps endangering the reactor, but saving the boat

"The proper procedure in a nuclear reactor scram is to shut off the steam engines," McCoole said in a 1993 interview. "Jim Henry, who was my assistant, I am certain followed this established procedure. He had just come out of nuclear power school.

"But I was a little more experienced and if I saw my pressure
gauge exceeding test depth, knowing full well the captain was unable to do anything without propulsion, I would have drawn the
steam [not shut it down]," McCoole said.

McCoole had long blamed the Navy for allowing the sub to sea with what he called "glaring deficiencies." He also blamed the Navy's policy of rotating personnel immediately prior to a ship's sea trials.

A native of Dover, McCoole had served in the Navy's submarine service for 24 years. He had held the rank of chief petty officer on the world's first nuclear submarine. USS Nautilus.

### Army medics get intense training prior to deployment

BY KIMBERLY HEFLING

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — Fake blood spewed, smoke billowed, strobe lights flashed and two high-tech dummies with limbs blown off lay on the ground.

"Medic, somebody call a medic!" a woman shrieked as the sound of gunfire erupted from the shadows.

In rushed an out-of-breath Pfc. Merinda Karn with aid bag in hand for a test of her medic skills.

As the insurgents in Iraq step up their attacks, the Army has increased the intensity of its training of battlefield medics. That has meant moving the training from classrooms to more realistic settings and teaching medics to keep fighting the enemy — even if it means sometimes delaying treatment of the wounded.

"One medic on his weapon returning fire can make the difference between the enemy staying and continuing to fire on us, or saying 'Whoa, I got to go,'" said Capt. Brad Tibbetts, the officer in charge of the Alfred V. Rascon School of Combat Medicine at Fort Campbell. "That's one thing we teach them —when to delay and when you can't." This year, about 500 medics and others

Min year, about 1930 fleutors and unlers who work in small, isolated units will undergo training at the school. They attend the class partly to refresh skills they acquired during a 16-week course at Fort Sam Houston in Texas, where all new Army medics take civilian emergency medical technician classes and study battlefield techniques.

Much of the training at the Fort Campbell school is conducted using strikingly lifelike dummies controlled by computers. The dummies "bleed," breathe, blink and have a pulse.

Nearly 90 percent of Americans wounded in Iraq are surviving, compared with 73 percent in Vietnam and 78 percent in the 1991 Persian Gulf War. Col. Richard Agee, chief of staff of the U.S. Army Medical Department and School, credited better body armor and better training of medical personnel.

Master Sgt. Luis Rodriguez, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the training at the school, is a former medic who was hit by mortar fire in Iraq. He lost a leg, but the use of a tourniquet helped save his life. He said the first thing he tells the medics is that the enemy will fire at them even if they are rendering aid, and they must be prepared to fight.

"The most important piece of equipment isn't your aid bag, it's your rifle," Rodriguez said. "We have to be aggressive, compassionate at the same time. But you have to bring the evil to the enemy."

Fort Campbell started holding the final test for the class in a dark room after 101st



A dummy designed to simulate an injured soldier is attended to during combat medic training Nov. 18 at the Alfred V. Rascon School of Combat Medicine at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Airborne Division medics returning from Afghanistan said they were not prepared to treat the wounded without light.

The 20-year-old Karn, who weighs about 140 pounds, was out of breath when she ran in to take the test because she had run six miles that morning and then dragged a 185-pound soldier about 200 yards before dashing into the room.

She flunked the test because in the dark she failed to feel an exit wound in the back of

her "casualty," and it "died."

Afterward, the lights came on in the room and taps played. An instructor discussed what she did wrong.

"I just wasn't as thorough as I should've been," Karn said, before leaving the room to write a letter to the "casualty's" parents, also part of the medic training.

Tibbetts said it is OK to make mistakes nere.

### Airman found guilty

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy
— An airman basic assigned to
the 31st Maintenance Squadron was found guilty in a summary court-martial last month
of repeatedly failing to report
for duty on time.

Alexander Mendoza was sentenced to 20 days' confinement and forfeiture of two-thirds pay during that span.

From staff reports

# 16 die in 3 separate car bombings in Iraq

BY DUSAN STOJANOVIC The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - A roadside explosion and three separate car bombs - one near the prime minparty headquarters in Baghdad - killed at least 16 people on Monday as insurgents pressed their deadly campaign to disrupt national elections which Iraq's defense minister said could he postnoned

A car bomb exploded late Monday at a U.S.-manned checkpoint to the Green Zone, the heavily fortified area that houses the U.S. Embassy and Iraqi government offices, U.S. Embassy spokesman Bob Callahan said, U.S. troops surrounded a burning SUV at the

Three bodies were seen burn ing inside the destroyed vehicle. The nationalities of the victims. identified as employees of the U.S.-based risk consulting group Kroll Inc. were not immediately known

Iraqi police Lt. Khalid Mohammed said the bomb targeted a U.S. nonmilitary convoy and there were casualties at the checkpoint, which is the main Green Zone exit for trips to Baghdad International Airport west of the city. American contractors and diplomats commonly make the journey along the dangerous airport road in SUVs.

Meanwhile, Iraqi defense minister Hazem Shaalan raised the possibility Monday that Iraqi elections could be postponed to try to persuade minority Sunni Mus-lims to participate in the vote.

The first strike, by an explosive-laden car near Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's party headquarters, killed two police officers and one civilian and injured 25 others. The secular Shiite leader was not inside the building in Baghdad's western district of Harithiya when the blast occurred, his aides said.

The second car bomb attack



Iragi and American security forces inspect the site of an explosion at a checkpoint in western Baghdad on Monday. A suicide bomber blew up an explosives-laden car near the prime minister's party headquarters, killing two police officers and one civilian and injuring 25 other Iraqis

took place in Balad, about 50 miles north of the capital, killing diers and wounding 14, U.S. mili-tary spokesman Neal E. O'Brien said. The driver of the car bomb

Saddam Hussein's hometown of

target the Iraqi National Guard' because the ING is creating conditions for "successful elections,

Car bombings and roadside ex-

plosions have become a standard feature of the deadly insurgency in Iraq ahead of the elections scheduled for Jan. 30. On Sunday a car bombing also in Balad killed at least 22 national guardsmen and their bus driver. Ten other people were killed in separate at tacks Sunday

U.S. officials have warned of violence ahead of the landmark vote for a national assembly, and the guerrillas have made good on those fears with tragic ease Iraq's poorly equipped security forces usually have far less training than American troops, and attacks on them usually result in more casualties

U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Sunday at least 1,329 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning o the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1.042 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The fig ures include three military civil-

The AP count is one higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Thursday

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three: Estonia, Thailand and the

Police said the first car explod-

The driver was killed in addi-

tion to the two policemen and ci-

vilian. Eighteen other officers

were among the wounded as well

as seven civilians. Witnesses said

machine-gun fire broke out after

the explosion, which set fire to three police vehicles.

The radical Ansar al-Sunnah

'One of Islam's lions managed

Army claimed responsibility for

to carry out a heroic martyrdom

operation targeting a large bunch

of Iraqi police agents responsible

for guarding the headquarters of

the National Accord of the apos

tate Allawi," a statement posted on the group's Web site said.

An Iraqi policeman was killed

and two others were wounded

when a beheaded, booby-trapped

corpse exploded in the town of

Mosul as "Iraqi police officers se-

the strike in Baghdad.

a western Baghdad district.

Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia one death each

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,191 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 933 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

military's numbers.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

cured the site and attempted to search the remains in order to identify the body," a government statement said Monday. It was not clear when the incident happened. 'This is another example of

how the criminals and terrorists attempting to thwart Iraq's efforts to conduct free and fair elections - have no regard for their fellow countrymen," the government said

Meanwhile on Sunday, promi-nent Shiite leaders belonging to the Unified Iraqi Alliance - a mainstream Shiite coalition running in the election — called for unity with Sunni Arabs wanting to delay the vote but insisted it be held despite the violence.

Shiites, who make up 60 per-cent of Iraq's 26 million people, are eager for the vote to go ahead so they can take power long denied them when the Sunni Arab minority had power under Saddam Hussein. But they hope the Sunnis, who make up about 20 percent of the people, will participate lest the vote be considered illegitimate.

as insurgents pressed their campaign to disrupt national elections.

died in the blast The third strike occurred in

Tikrit, killing at least six Guardsmen and injuring four others in a roadside explosion, police said. "Anti-Iragi forces continue to

O'Brien said.

# Arab paper reports mess hall bomber a Saudi

BY MAAMOUN YOUSSEF

The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt - The suicide bomber who killed 22 people when he blew himself up in a U.S. mess hall in Mosul, Iraq, was a Saudi medical student, an Arab newspaper reported Monday Saudi-owned Asharq Al-Awsat identified him as

20-vear-old Ahmed Said Ahmed al-Ghamdi, citing unnamed friends of the man's father.

The friends said members of an Iraqi resistance group contacted al-Ghamdi's father to tell him his son was the suicide bomber who carried out the Dec. 21 attack, the deadliest on an American installation in Iraq.

The U.S.-led coalition that toppled Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein has faced fierce resistance, most of it carried out by Saddam loyalists or Iraqi nationalists. Some of the deadliest attacks have been blamed on foreign Muslim extremists

U.S. officials have said their preliminary investiga tion indicates the bomber was dressed in an Iraqi military uniform - but was not an Iraqi soldier when he slipped into a mess tent packed with soldiers eating lunch in northern Iraq.

The father refused to discuss the suicide bombing, but he told the newspaper his son had gone to Iraq to fight the Americans and had died there. The family held a mourning ceremony, the paper said. It did not say when the ceremony was held or where in Saudi Arabia the family lived. group. But Ansar al-Sunnah, a radical Islamic Iraqi group that has been active in northern Iraq, claimed responsibility for the mess hall attack. In a videotape posted on the Web. Ansar al-Sunnah identified the suicide bomber as Abu Omar al-Musali — an apparent nom de guerre meaning Abu Omar of Mosul

The man identified as Abu Omar al-Musali appeared in the Web video wearing an explo-sives-laden vest, but did not speak. Another man. speaking in an Iraqi accent, described how the operation had been planned. A subsequent segment showed what appeared to have been the attack.

Ansar al-Sunnah shares the anti-Western, Quranic rhetoric of Islamic extremist groups like al-Qaida, but has confined its fight to Iraq and has not actively recruited foreign fighters. The group, though, has declared that it worked with an al-Qaida branch in Irag on at least one operation, in November,

Asharq al-Awsat said al-Ghamdi started studying medicine in Sudan when his father worked and lived there. Al-Ghamdi stayed to complete his studies when his family returned to Saudi Arabia, the paper reported, without saying when the family left

It said the father said he learned Dec. 16 that his son had withdrawn all the money left in a Sudanese bank account for him and later received a phone call from his son telling him that he was in Iraq to fight the Americans.

### GI killed in firefight with Afghan insurgents

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan -American soldier was killed and three others wounded in a clash with militants in eastern Afghanistan early Monday, the U.S. military said. It was the second American fatality in as many days.

Mark Mc Spokesman Maj. Cann said the firefight occurred near Asadabad in Kunar province after two homemade bombs targeting coalition forces went off.

"Resulting from that engage .. one U.S. soldier was killed and three were wounded he told a news conference.

Kunar is part of a swath of southern and eastern Afghanistan where insurgents continue to defy the 18,000-strong U.S.-led force still hunting remnants of the former ruling Taliban regime and al-Qaida, three years after the Islamic hard-liners were ousted from power.

Col. Gary Cheek, the commander of U.S. forces in the eastern re gion, said he recently sent additional troops to Kunar to help persuade the local population to stop giving refuge to militants.

The mountainous area next to the Pakistani horder is viewed as a stronghold of renegade Afghan warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a former prime minister who has joined the Taliban in vowing to drive out foreign troops and topple the U.S.-backed government.

"I am confident they (residents) will deny the sanctuary to the insurgents and we will drive them from the Kunar area, Cheek told the news conference.

Monday's clash came a day after one U.S. soldier and a former Afghan militia leader were killed in a gunfight when American troops tried to search the man's home in western Herat province.

### Iragis top Americans in soccer match



Mariwan Noory, center, an Iraqi police officer, squeezes between two unidentified Company B defenders during a soccer game at Bull Base in Kirkuk, Iraq, last month. The soldiers lost 2-1 to the police officers.

# **AAFES** cuts off sales of bootleg DVDs and games

**NOTEBOOK** 

Jason Chudy

and Joseph Giordono

something

called?" he said.

plaining that one of their main sources of entertainment is being taken away.

The DVD stalls run by Iraqi vendors outside many post exchanges are being shut down be-

cause of security concerns stemming from last month's suicide bombing at a base near Mosul, Army and Air Force Exchange Service offi-

Granted, the movies sold at the stalls are of dubious origin and probably don't adhere to international convright laws. But at \$2 per movie, the prices

The small shops, often clustered around the AAFES stores on bases, also offer bootleg video games, Cuban cigars, cheap cigarettes and every kind of knife imaginable.

According to an AAFES spokesman in Dallas, the stalls "have been closed because of force-protection concerns that are keeping local nationals, particularly those not associated with current contractors or DOD agencies, off the installations.

Some of those stalls had been approved by base commanders or base mayor cells, but are now being shut down, AAFES spokesman Judd Anstey said in an e-mail response to Stars and Stripes

As a result, several of the stores offered "going out of business" sales, resulting in a two-day windfall of even cheaper movies and games for soldiers.

### What's in a name?

Many American last names refer back to the occupation of their ancestors, such as farmer, miller, baker or even smith, but one soldier assigned to Company B. 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment has one that's appropriate to his current job in Iraq. When Pvt. David Tanks joined the Army, he seemingly was destined to become a tanker

'When I first got (to the recruiters' office), they said, 'Oh, you want to be a tank-er,' " the 21-year-old Franklin **REPORTERS'** 

County, Va.-native said. Rut Tanks said his last name didn't influence his decision. When he went to the processing station, he was given a

choice of career fields. "They gave me a list of jobs: infantry, artillery scouts and tanks Tanks chose tanks. "It was my best option and the safest, so that was

what I chose," he said. During basic training his name was the first the drill sergeants remembered. "When they wanted

> Since his arrival with Companv B three months ago. Tanks has been getting plenty of experience. "I'd say about 30 percent of the patrols have been in tanks," he said. "In 1st Platoon,

usually push-ups, guess who got

I did maybe 10 missions. Now with 3rd platoon, he splits tank missions with those done in armored Humvees, but he's sold on his chosen career field

'It's the best thing on the battlefield," he said.

Stars and Stripes reporters Jason Chudy and Joseph Giordono buted to this report.

E-mail Chudy at: chudyj@mail.estripes.osd.mil; e-mail Giordono at: giordonoi@ostripes.osd.mil

### Two N.H. newspapers honor servicemembers

Stars and Stripes

New Hampshire's two largest newspapers have announced that the state's Citizen of the Year award for 2004 is being given to its men and women in

The new award, expected to be bestowed annually, is for the "thousands of New Hampshire's sons and daughters are serving in support of the War on Ter-

ror," the Union Leader and New Hampshire Sunday News told Stars and Stripes via e-mail.

More on the story can be found at: www.theunionlead er.com in the papers' "War on Terror" section.

### Commander: American forces in Afghanistan taking fewer prisoners

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - The U.S. military is taking as few prisoners as possible in its campaign against the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan, an American com-mander said Monday, partly to forestall more complaints about its conduct after the deaths in custody of at least eight prisoners.

Col. Gary Cheek, the U.S. commander for eastern Afghanistan, said the troops under his command would be "relentless" in their pursuit of insurgents, including some 20 unidentified top leaders, through the bitter Afghan

But he said the soldiers were taking as few prisoners as possible as they try to win stronger support from the local population. and following a review of the military's policy on detentions last year.

"We are always adapting to the changes in the environment and our commanders, our soldiers, are also trying to be more sensitive to the Afghan culture," Cheek said at a news conference. "I've told our commanders, for evample, to minimize the number of Afghan nationals or others that they detain."

The U.S. military, which still commands 18,000 troops here, has taken thousands of prisoners in Afghanistan since Operation Enduring Freedom Washington's anti-terrorism drive, began after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States

Those not quickly released are transferred to larger jails at U.S. bases in Bagram and Kandahar, from where many have in the past been sent to the American prison for terror suspects at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

However, allegations of mistreatment -- dating back to before the prisoner abuse scandal in Iraq — have hurt efforts to win over ordinary Afghans.

Spokesman Maj. Mark Mc-Cann said fewer prisoners were now being sent to Guantanamo, reflecting a decline in militant activity in Afghanistan. He also said detainees could be freed this year under a planned amnesty.

The officials gave no figures to show whether detention rates had indeed declined, although Cheek said the three holding facilities under his control at bases in eastern Afghanistan were currently empty.

Asked about the death in September of a prisoner at his own headquarters in the city of Khost, Cheek said the man had complained to a guard that he was bitten by a snake.

A military doctor examined the man, Sher Mohammed Khan, and found no evidence of a bite. But a medic who checked on him during the night found that he had stopped breathing. Doctors were unable to revive him.

Cheek said he had yet to receive the results of the autopsy, but said he was confident his troops were treating every detainee "with dignity and respect."

"If we were to treat those we detain poorly, it would really hurt our overall attempts to win the confidence and trust of the population, so it makes no sense for us to abuse prisoners and I will tell you that we do not do that."

Human Rights Watch last month cited Khan's case in a letter to U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

It accused the Pentagon of dragging its feet on investigating at least eight deaths of Afghan detainees dating back to 2001, and suggested quicker action could have prevented abuses in Iraq a charge U.S. officials reject.



A U.S. soldier patrols as his colleague shakes hands with an Afghan boy near Pul-e-Charkhi, Afghanistan, on Monday. As part of an effort to win stronger support from the local population, soldiers are taking as few prisoners as possible, a U.S. commander said Monday.

### IN THE WORLD

# **Ex-presidents to lead tsunami fund-raising**

BY TERENCE HUNT

WASHINGTON — President Bush on Monday tapped two former presidents — his father, President George H.W. Bush, and his predecessor, President Clinton — to lead a nationwide, private fund-raising campaign help victims of the Asian tsuna-

"I ask every American to contribute as they are able to do so," Bush said in the White House's Roosevelt Room, the two former presidents at his side.

Clinton and the first President Bush are to lead an effort to encourage the American people and businesses to support relief and reconstruction activities in areas devastated by the tsunamis, the president said. He also ordered that American flags fly at half-staff all week in sympathy (y'') particularly the may the dy'') particularly the may the sands of dead and orphaned children.

"In the coming days, Presidents Clinton and Bush will ask Americans to donate directly to reliable charities already provid-



President Bush announces Monday in the Roosevelt Room at the White House that he is appointing former presidents George H.W. Bush, left, and Bill Clinton, right, to head up efforts to raise money for the massive American relief operation in the tsunami-battered regions of Asia.

ing help to tsunami victims," Bush said. "I've asked the former presidents to solicit contributions both large and small." The president urged Americans to give money instead of other items. "Cash donations are most useful." he said. The announcement came as the White House has been scrambling to repair an image battered at home and abroad by perceptions that U.S. aid for the tsunamis lagged behind other countries—especially considering the outpouring of support for America from other countries in the hours and days immediately following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Bush himself has not yet made a personal contribution, but plans to give an unspecified amount, McClellan said.

Later Monday, Bush, accompanied by first lady Laura Bush as well as his father and Clinton, paid brief visits to the embassies of the four nations hit hardest by the disaster — Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand.

At the Indonesian and Indian embassies, Laura Bush presented officials with bouquets of white roses and the foursome signed condulence books

The president also was waiting to hear back from a delegation he dispatched to the region to assess what more the United States government can do to help. That team, led by Secretary of State Colin Powell and the president's brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, arrived in the region Monday.

### Task force official outlines relief plans

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN

Stars and Stripes

UTAPAO, Thailand — More than a week after a massive, deadly tsunami, U.S. military personnel are flowing steadily into the area with supplies for a massive humanitarian relief mission.

All U.S. military efforts in the region fall under Joint Task Force S56, being commanded by Lf. Gen. Robert R. Blackman of the Okinawa, Japan-based III Marine Expeditionary Force. The task force headquarters, an air base here, also is a major embarkation point for relief supplies.

"We're gathering relief supplies here and distributing them from here," said Marine Lt. Col. Robert Krieg, a joint task force operations planning team member. Three disaster relief assessment teams, in Sri Lanka, Phuker, Thailand, and Indonesia, "are determining what the need is." Current plans are to use Utapao as the central hub and airlift supplies out to the "spokes," said Marine Lt. Col. Pat Martin, also on the operations planning team. Teams throughout the region will request supplies needed most in their areas. "They're going to know better what they need than we will,"

"Things are just going to ramp up from here," Krieg said. Units already are beginning to converge on the region in advance of the assessment teams' final reports, he said.

"This is going to be the biggest joint task force I've ever seen," Martin said.

While a recent humanitarian relief mission to the Philippines lasted several weeks, Krieg predicted the tsunami's damage is so severe, and relief efforts are likely to be so extensive, that this operation will take much longer.

E-mail Fred Zimmerman at: zimmermanf@pstripes.osd.mil

# U.S. efforts to send aid pick up steam

The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — A massive American military relief operation picked up steam Monday, with U.S. helicopters dropping off cartons of food aid in Sumatra and warships with Agaco Marines arriving in the Malacca Straits to ferry supplies to the tsumami-battered Indonesian island.

As the death toll around the In.

As the death oin around the Indian Ocean rim approached 140,000, a delegation led by Secretary of State Colin Powell and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush began a trip that will include stops in Thailand, Indonesia and possibly Sri Lanka.

U.S. Navy helicopters rescued dozens of weakened survivors along Sumatra's devastated west coast, carrying them to a hospital in Banda Aceh.

Searchers all but gave up hope of finding more survivors from the Dec. 26 killer earthquake and tsunami, with authorities saying that thousands listed as missing were presumed dead. The world turned its full attention to getting food and water to the living.

Confirmed deaths from the disaster reached 139,253 after hardest-hit Indonesia increased its death toll to 94,081, and Sri Lanka and Thailand both raised their tolls by lesser amounts. Aid agencies have said the death toll was expected to hit 150,000. Sri Lanka, India and Thailand said they were prepared to give up on the more than 15,000 people still unaccounted for.

Aid workers were trying to help millions of people displaced and devastated by losses of family and friends put their towns and villages back togeth-

On Monday, the USS Bonhomme Richard and two other warships carrying a Marine expeditionary unit, dozens of helicopters and tons of supplies steamed into the Indian Ocean to join relief operations off the northwest coast of Indonesia's Sumatra island.

Later this week, the group was to begin operations off Sri Lanka

The Pentagon also has decided to send the USNS Mercy, a 1,000-bed hospital ship based at San Diego, to join the relief effort, two officials said Monday on condition of anonymity.

The U.S. helicopters carried about 69 survivors — including two pregnant women and some so weak they could neither walk nor talk — to the Banda Aceh hospital after the American military got permission from Jakarta to pick up those in bad shape. Many had had little food or water for eight days, and they suffered from ailments including pneumonia, broken bones, infected wounds, tetanus and trauma.

Several also were brought to the USS Abraham Lincoln on stretchers.

Also on Sumatra, U.S. helicopters dropped off cartons of food aid donated by Singapore schools.

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# Thailand exhumes 300 misidentified victims

BY ALISA TANG

The Associated Press

PHUKET, Thailand - Forensic experts have begun exhuming 300 tsunami victims in Thailand after discovering their bodies apparently were mislabeled in the rush to bury the dead before they decomposed in the tropical heat, officials said Monday.

In the hopes of avoiding further confu-sion. That government officials and police urged friends and relatives seeking information about the missing to stay away from the disaster area and temporary morgues so forensics experts could do

"Relatives want to come here, but we would like them to stay in their home cour tries and collect information on medical and dental records," Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai said, referring the bereaved to a special Web site pooling infor-mation on the missing.

Teams of more than 200 forensic experts from Thailand and 18 other countries are working frantically at Buddhist temples that serve as makeshift morgues to identify the dead, many of whom were foreign tour-

At one, several hundred bodies lay on the ground, covered by tarps or body bags Another hundred lay in the sun. A man sprayed a cloud of disinfectant.

Some of the beaches least affected by the walls of water that battered a long stretch of the country's southern coast Dec. 26 already have been largely cleaned up, and tourists were out swimming and sunning themselves

With 5,046 confirmed deaths and 3,810 people still listed as missing, Thailand's official death toll could be as high as 8,000, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has warned. The total number of people killed in 11 nations was approaching 150,000 on Monday

With Thaksin saying Sunday that Thailand no longer needs financial assistance, the focus was on finding and identifying bodies, along with maintaining the flow of aid to the needy and finding longer-term housing for people who lost their homes.

Heavy machinery worked on the ruins of posh resorts that were flattened around Khao Lak beach, about 50 miles north of Phuket, where Thaksin said the situation remained "quite severe." Elephants helned clear debris

Leading Thai forensic expert Porntip Roianasunand said 300 victims, all Thais and other Asians, were being exhumed

"When the relatives came to try to claim the victims' bodies, it turned out they had the wrong number." she said. "The local offices did not put tags on the bodies proper ly, so we are trying to re-identify them. No one understood how important it is to have the appropriate tagging and labeling. The last two days, we have had the problem of

digging up bodies."

In one case, a Thai family admitted it had mistakenly claimed the body of a woman that was brought from Phuket to Bangkok. It turned out to be the body of a 23-year-old Philippine choreographer and ballet dance instructor.

"There were just too many casualties or maybe because Thais and Filipinos look the same. We don't know, but in a disaster of this magnitude, confusion is bound to happen," said Hector Cruz, a Manila-based labor official helping families locate dead. injured or missing relatives in Thailand

Officials sought to increase their refrigeration capacity to store bodies while DNA samples, fingerprints and dental records are obtained so identification can be made

Suwit Khunkitti, minister of natural resources and environment, said relatives of foreign victims can send DNA samples from their missing loved ones to be matched here in Thailand. Surakiart said relatives should come to the area only when there is a positive identification.

Associated Press writer Miranda Leitsinger contributed to this story.



Thai soldiers carry a coffin from a pile at Yan Yao temple in Takuapa district of Pang-Nga province, southern Thailand, on Monday. Forensic experts have begun exhuming 300 tsunami victims in Thailand after discovering their bodies apparently

### **Families** struggle to recognize relatives

### Sri Lanka hospital posts photos hoping for identifications

BY CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA

The Associated Press

GALLE, Sri Lanka - Balage Shriyani held an old photograph of her 7-year-old daughter, dressed up for a school concert in bangles, makeup and a yellow, ankle-length dress, against a new photograph of a bloated corpse in a sodden blouse.

"It's her," Shriyani sobbed, sinking her head onto her outstretched arm. She had recognized her daughter, Sajini Kaushalya, in a hospital gallery of photographs of unknown victims who died in the Asian tsunami that devastated swaths of the Sri Lankan coast

Staff at Karapitiya, the main hospital in the southern coastal city of Galle, pasted hundreds of photographs on the walls of a ward on Sunday in hopes that relatives of the missing would be able to identify loved ones. The hospital buried about 1,100 bodies earlier in the week, but was unable to identify 400 of those, deputy director C.D. Pathirage said

Medics photographed the bodies, took their fingerprints and removed jewelry for possible re-turn to relatives before burying them, but acknowledged that it



Tsunami survivor Balage Shrivani recognizes her missing daughter. Sajini Kaushalya, from a lineup of pictures showing unidentified victims who had to be buried in mass graves. The photos were posted Sunday at the mortuary in the Karapitiva hospital in southern Sri Lanka.

to identify all.

Many of the color photographs show bodies distorted by decomposition, their faces swollen beyond recognition, eyeballs and tongues protruding, lips pulled back in permanent grimaces

"All the facial features had changed," said hospital doctor S.P.A. Hewage, who hoped famiwould instead recognize shirts, trousers, belt buckles and tattoos in the photographs. Some of those who died in the tsunami waves a week ago were amputees, making identification easier,

The photographs were displayed in a hall that was recently built as a playground for mentally ill children and served as a make shift morgue when truckloads of hodies arrived at the hospital after the disaster. Shriyani studied row after row of gruesome images before identifying the green checkered pattern with red trim

was unlikely they would be able of the sleeveless blouse that the girl was wearing on the day of her

> Shriyani described how she was breast-feeding her 19-dayold baby at her home on the eastern outskirts of Galle when she heard a noise that sounded like a dynamite explosion. She grabbed her two other children and ran out the door, but the waves soon overpowered them.

While Shrivani later found her boy and revived him by pushing on his stomach to make him cough up the sea water, she did not know what had happened to her girl until she saw the photograph on Sunday.

Only a trickle of relatives visited the gallery of photographs on Sunday, partly because the hospital was still trying to get the word out to families who were missing loved ones.

"It's a very difficult process," Pathirage said. "Sometimes the whole family has died, so there are no relations to identify them.

### Village picks up pieces

NAGAPPATTINAM, India As dawn brings the first rays of light into the deserted fishing hamlet of Nambiar Nagar, a few locals venture in. An hour later, more people arrive and by midmorning, the place is teeming.

They are the residents of the fishing village on the edge of the Bay of Bengal who fled as last week's tsunami hit. Many survivors are now returning from government relief camps inland to pick up the pieces and resume their lives

India's official death toll from the Dec. 26 tsunami, which battered a dozen nations from Asia to Africa, is more than 9,000, most in southern Tamil Nadu state. The United Nations expects the total number of people killed in the disaster to reach 150,000.

Six days after the carnage, survivors have returned to their rustic huts to assess the damage. With little outside help, they are putting back the wooden planks, tightening loosened poles, cleaning out knee-deep sludge and resurrecting their homes.

The steps back are tentative, as survivors grapple with an urge to go home amid fear that another wave may hit.

Many spend the day in their vil-lages, but return to the relief camps at night.

The community center in Nambiar Nagar, a fishing hamlet in the town of Nagappattinam, is one of the few structures that sur-vived the tsunami. Its shelves are stocked with relief supplies.

Victims line up for bags of daily rations: rice, lentils and biscuits. As the day wanes, the residents

head back to the crowded chaos of the camps

### Europe counts tsunami loss

The Associated Press

OSLO, Norway - The names of missing parents, children, spouses and loved ones printed on Web sites and newspapers and scrolling across TV scre brought home to the Nordics the force of the south Asian tsunamis as residents pondered the fate of nearly 3,500 missing.

Elsewhere across Europe, the enormity of the earthquake-propelled tsunami that destroyed popular vacation destinations for Europeans hit home as more Britons, French, Germans and others remained unaccounted for.

In Britain, 40 people are reported dead, according to the Association of British Travel Agents, Officials have said 159 Britons remain missing.

France has lost 22 citizens in the disaster, and another 99 are missing, said Renaud Muselier,

the country's secretary of state

for foreign affairs. In Germany, 60 people have been reported killed and 1,000

are missing. Norway's national crime police, Kripos, said Monday that 16 Norwegians were killed in the tsunami. Kripos also cut the number of missing to 242, in-

cluding 43 children, from the earlier estimate of 462. In Finland, 14 Finns are known dead and 183 more missing

In the Baltics, Latvia is still searching for 15 of its citizens and Estonia said three of its peo-

ple had not been accounted for. In Denmark there was some re-lief after the number of missing Danes fell to 69, even though National Police warned that another

100 were not accounted for. In Sweden, some 2,915 Swedes are still missing and 52 were confirmed killed.

### Malaysian tuna boat rescues woman after five days of clinging to palm tree

BY SEAN YOONG The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia A Malaysian tuna ship rescued an Indonesian woman who drifted for five days in the Indian Ocean after last week's tsunami swent her out to sea from her home on Sumatra island, an official said Monday.

Melawati, 23, was spotted alive Friday while clinging to a floating sago palm tree in waters near Aceh province, said Goi Kim Par, manager of the Malaysian International Tuna Port. Melawati uses only one name.

She suffered leg injuries be-

cause of being bitten by fish at sea and was extremely weak, but remained conscious and arrived for medical treatment Monday afternoon at Malaysia's northwestern Penang island, Goi added,

Penang Health Director Azmi Shapie said Melawati - who survived by eating the tree's fruit and bark — suffered trauma and would be given counseling before being handed to the Indonesian consulate in Penang.

Ship crewmembers told Malaysia's national news agency, Bernama, that Melawati had waved frantically to draw the trawler's attention and was found clad in only her underpants because her clothes had been ripped to shreds. She cried throughout her three days aboard the trawler, they added

Also, four Indonesian fishermen found alive had been on a hoat that drifted north for nine days to a remote Indian Ocean island, the Indian coast guard said. The boat's engine broke down before the tsunami hit, said Anil K. Pokharival, commander of the coast guard ship.

The men, suffering from shock, were rescued by the coast guard Saturday off Campbell Bay. Pokhariyal told The Associated

They were brought to Port Blair, capital of the Indian archipelago of Andaman and Nicobar islands, on Monday.

Meanwhile, the Malaysian government said it will allow the country's airspace and at least two airports to be used for tsunami relief operations in Indonesia.

The U.N. World Food Program is expected to use the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah Airport on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur as a staging post for supplies to be dropped off before they are sent on to Aceh province on Sumatra island, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Malaysia also will let the United States use its airspace and northern Langkawi airport to dispatch humanitarian assistance to Aceh the statement added Regional officials have said air-

ports in the Sumatran towns of Medan and Banda Aceh are overstretched because of the massive amount of aid and personnel ar-



n Acehnese woman who lost her father in the Dec. 26 tsunami weeps nday in Meulaboh, Aceh province, Indonesia. The tsunami hit the province, killing almost 100,000 people.

# Indonesia seeks tsunami warnings

### Nation will host conference later this week to discuss system, aid

BY LELY T. DJUHARI The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia -Indonesia said Monday it plans to establish an early warning system for disasters with its neighbors, as its death toll from last week's earthquake and tsunami jumped to almost 100,000.

Indonesia, which suffered the most death and destruction in last week's disaster, will host a conference later this week of nations hit and major aid donors that is likely to focus on how best to deliver relief efforts

Participants, including U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and senior United Nations officials, may also discuss ways to establish an multi-country warning system.

Officials say an untold number of deaths could have been prevented if such a system - which exists in the Pacific Ocean - had been in place on Dec. 26, when a massive earthquake off Indonesia's Sumatra island sent huge waves surging into coastlines of at least a dozen countries on the edge of the Indian Ocean. The death toll is expected to top 150,000 people. "Indonesia and other neighbor-

ing countries plan to set up an early warning to prevent natural disasters, including earthquake and tsunamis," President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono told reporters Monday. "This would be a kind of pre-emptive measure."

Yudhoyono didn't specify which countries would be involved, how the impoverished nation planned to finance the system, or how it would work.

Thai Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai, speaking Monday in Phuket, said some of the millions of dollars in donations pouring into the affected countries should be spent on the system.

One of the most important

things we would like to work on with the United States and several European countries ... is the immediate installation of the early warning system and the monitoring system," Surakiart said.

Regional leaders were expected to endorse establishing a tsunami early warning system at Thursday's conference, organized by the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

But experts say making such a system work will be an expensive and complex task

Also Monday, Minister of Jus-tice and Human Rights Hamid Awaluddin said the government has issued a policy aimed at human traffickers who might prey on children orphaned in the

"Beginning today all Acehnese children up to 16 years old are banned from being brought abroad," Awaluddin told reporters after a Cabinet meeting. "This policy is aimed at anticipating the issue of child trafficking as well as illegal adoption of the orphans." Unconfirmed reports in Indone

sia say dozens of children whose parents were killed have already been taken by unidentified peo-ple, some of them possibly child traffickers. On a positive note, officials said

they found an Indonesian fisherman on Sunday who had been trapped under his boat since the tsunami unturned it onto him a week earlier.

Tengku Sofyan, 24, was being treated for severe dehydration at a hospital in Banda Aceh. He could barely speak and had cuts on his body, doctors said.

"He's in extremely fragile con-dition, especially mentally," said Dr. Irwan Azwar, his doctor

Witnesses said Sofyan was at sea when the tsunami hit Dec. 26. His boat was tossed onto the beach at Lampulo, trapping him

underneath.



Melawati is carried away by hospital staff members at the Malaysian International Tuna Port in Penang on Monday. A Malaysian tuna ship rescued Melawati who drifted for five days in the Indian Ocean

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# Six go on trial in Paris for plot to bomb U.S. Embassy

The Associated Press

PARIS — Six men, including a top terrorism suspect in France, were going on trial Monday accused of plotting to bomb the U.S. Embassy in Paris — a plan allegedly concocted in terror training camps in Afebanistan.

The trial is expected to highlight the overlapping tentacles of terror networks in Europe.

The investigation into the alleged plot was opened on Sept. 10, 2001 — a day before the U.S. terror attacks — following the arrest of suspected ringleader Djamel Beghal.

The suspects are charged with criminal association with a terrorist enterprise, and risk up to 10 years in prison if convicted. The trial is to last until Feb. 16.

Beghal, 39, a French-Algerian, was arrested in July 2001 in the United Arab Emirates after leaving Afghanistan. He was carrying an illegally obtained French passport.

During two months of detention in Dubai, he told local authorities of a plot to target U.S. interests in France, notably the U.S. Embassy, and said the scheme was ordered by Osama bin Laden's terror network, officials said at the time.

Beghal identified a Tunisian accomplice — professional soccer player Nizar Trabelsi — who was to enter the U.S. Embassy wearing a bomb belt.

However, Beghal later recanted that testimony during questioning in France and suggested he had been tortured in Dubai and forced to make up the story, officials have said.

One of his lawyers, Claire Doubliez, said he would describe the circumstances of his Dubai interrogation, including the alleged mistreatment, during the trial.

Trabelsi is serving a 10-year sentence in Belgium for plotting bomb attacks on U.S. military personnel and involvement in an al-Qaida-linked ring in Europe.

Beghal provided information to investigators that led to the arrest of several other suspects, including Kamel Daoudi, 30, a quiet computer expert arrested in Britain in 2002 with fake identity documents after fleeing his home in a southern Paris suburb.

According to the prosecution, Daoudi was to send information about the preparation for the attack to Afghanistan via the Internet — and receive the green light for the attack in the same way.

The French investigation uncovered links between the suppects on trial here and others in Belgium, like Trabelsi, and in the Netherlands where Jerome Courtailler, a French convert to Islam, was tried in the U.S. Embassy plot.

He was acquitted in 2002 in the case, but that was overturned by an appeals court that sentenced him to six years in prison.



Snow-covered Black Angus cows are shown in a ranch outside the southern Alberta city of Medicine Hat. On Sunday, Canada confirmed its second case of mad cow disease, just days after the United States said it planned to reonen its horder to Canadian heef.

### Group: Killings in Iraq make 2004 deadliest year in decade for media

3Y PAUL AMES

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Killings in Iraq made 2004 the deadliest year in a decade for media professionals with 117 killed gathering news around the world, an international media watchdog reported.

"Iraq was the most dangerous place in the world for journalists and their teams," the International News Safety Institute said Sunday. It listed 42 dead there, all but six of them Iraqis.

Elsewhere, the deadliest places were the Philippines with 12 media staff killed, India with eight, and Brazil, Mexico and Bangladesh with five each.

The organization said it was the worst year since 1994, when 157 news men and women died mostly in Rwanda, Bosnia, Chechnya, Somalia and Angola.

The global death toll for jour-

nainst and mose who work with them is horrifying, and nowhere more than in Iraq where unbelievably brave men and women daily risk bullets, bombs and kidnapping," INSI Director Rodney Pinder said in a statement.

The group's list includes support staff such as translators and drivers as well as journalists themselves.

The U.S.-based Committee to Protect Journalists last month also reported the worst year in a decade, but its list was restricted to journalists and gave 54 dead.

Pinder said many of those killed were deliberately targeted because of media work in their homelands.

He called for governments to take tougher action to bring their killers to justice.

"It's a frightening fact that, as in previous years, most journalists who died were not specially trained international war correspondents parachuted knowingly into danger, but people covering daily stories in their own conflicted countries," he said.

"It's high time that countries with journalists' blood on their hands took effective action to find and prosecute their killers."

Among those killed were five Iraqis who died in October when a car bomb targeted the Baghdad bureau of the Dubai-based TV network Al-Arabiya.

Among the others named: Alberto Rivera Fernandez gunned down after covering corruption in his native Peru; Paul Klebnikov, editor of Forbes magazine's Russian edition, shot by unknown assailants after leaving his Moscow office; and Dekendra Thapa of Nepal, kidnapped and killed by Maoist rebels.

The INSI was founded in 2003 by a coalition of media organizations to work to improve media safety around the world.

# Canada confirms second case of mad cow disease

BY ROB GILLIES

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Canada's second confirmed case of mad cow disease won't change plans by the United States to reopen its border to Canadian beef, U.S. agriculture officials said.

Canada's Food Inspection Agen-

cy said Sunday that an older dairy cow from the province of Alberta has tested positive for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease. The results confirmed preliminary tests released earlier this week.

Canada suspects the cow became infected through contaminated animal feed. The cow was born in 1996, before a 1997 bar on certain types of feed, the agency said. It did not enter the human food or animal feed supply and posed no risk to the public, the agency said.

BSE attacks an animal's nervous system. Food contaminated with BSE can afflict people with usually fatal variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

Canadian officials say the United States was aware of the suspected case when they made their suspicions known on Wednesday, the same day the U.S. Agriculture Department said it was planning to reopen the border to Canadian beef in March Despite learning of the new sussaid the next day that it would stand by its decision to renew Canadian cattle imports.

The border was closed to Canadian beef 19 months ago when a cow in northern Alberta was discovered with mad cow disease. Concerns persisted after a Canadian-born cow in Washington state was found in December 2003 to have the disease.

On Sunday, U.S. agriculture officials reiterated support for lifting the ban.

"I don't anticipate that this confirmation will change implementation of our rule," said department spokeswoman Alisa Harrison. "I think it's pretty much where we were last week. We've been working closely with Canadian officials."

Harrison said the department based its decision to lift the ban on guidelines set by the World Health Organization showing Canada to be a minimal risk and took into consideration the possibility of additional mad cow cases in Canada.

Under the WHO guidelines, Harrison said, a country with 5.5 million head of cattle over 24 months of age, such as Canada, would still be considered a minimal risk if had 11 cases of mad cow disease in a year.

Still, Canada seemed to be holding its breath. The country sold more than 70 percent of its live cattle to the United States before the ban — a market worth \$1.5 billion in 2002.

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin spoke to President Bush on Friday about the new suspected case and Bush assured him that his administration was committed to reopening the border, a Canadian official said on condition of anonymity.

Since BSE was first diagnosed in Britain in 1986, there have been more than 180,000 cases of the chronic, degenerative disorder.

### Cuba re-establishes Europe contacts Mom allegedly tosses baby out window

HAVANA — Cuba said Monday it had re-established formal contacts with European nations including France, Germany and Britain in a quest to normalize relations after a nearly two-year-long freeze.

Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque said the decision was made after a European Union commission recommended that member states stop inviting Cuban dissidents to national holiday celebrations at their embassies in Havana.

"Due to these pronouncements, Cuba has made the decision to re-establish formal contacts with a group of countries from the European Union," Roque told a news conference.

Roque said Cuban authorities would immediately start meeting with ambassadors from eight European countries: France, Britain, Germany, Italy, Austria, Greece, Portugal and Sweden. MADRID, Spain — A Spanish woman has been arrested on suspicion of killing her newborn son by throwing him out the window of a third-story apartment, police said Monday.

The 30-year-old woman's mother and sister, who lived with her, also were arrested over Sunday's incident in the town of Burjassot in eastern Valencia province, a police official there said.

He said the mother's motive was not known. News reports said the infant still had his umbilical cord attached when he was thrown from the window, hit a car and landed on the sidewalk. Police found him just barely alive. The child died later in a

The woman is scheduled to go before a judge on Tuesday for a preliminary hearing, the news agency Efe said.

From The Associated Press

### IN THE STATES

# Two issues could split Congress

### Parties divided on Social Security, nominees for Supreme Court

BY CHARLES BABINGTON AND MIKE ALLEN The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The 109th Congress was set to convene Tuesday with pageantry and pleasantries, but two lurking, potentially explosive issues could turn it into one of the most partisan and con-

tentious sessions in recent times. Just as judicial nominations have become unusually divisive, senators are anticipating the first Supreme Court vacancy in more than a decade. And President Bush is proposing significant changes to Social Security, the popular entitlement program that many Democrats consider a vital and inviola-

ble legacy of their party. The new Congress will address hundreds of other questions, such as whether to limit civil liabilities, rewrite immigration laws and drill for oil in an Alaskan refuge. But politicians from left to right agree that those issues cannot rock the Capitol like the battles over the high court and the federal retirement program.

"Those are going to be the two epic fights in 2005," said Richard Lessner, executive director of the American Conservative Union

Aides said Bush plans to kick off the Social Security debate with a major speech even before his second inauguration on Jan. 20, then will try to keep up the pressure on Congress with a series of road trips that will include stops in areas with heavy concentrations of seniors so he can assure them they could not lose their checks under his proposal. Signaling his plans to work for all the major parts of his agenda, Bush will fly Wednesday to Illinois to make his case for medical liability

In many respects, the 109th Congress will resemble the 108th, which adjourned last month. Republicans again control the White House as well as both chambers of Congress, though by relatively

Outwardly, the 435-member House has barely changed, with Republicans gaining three seats in November and both parties keeping their leader-ship teams in place. The Nov. 2 elections brought more change to the 100-seat Senate

Republicans netted four additional seats, boosting their once-tiny majority to a more comfortable 55 and, in the process, ousting the Democrats' leader of the past decade, Tom Daschle of South Dako ta. But Democrats still hold enough seats to mount filibusters, the delaying strategy that requires 60 votes to halt. With Chief Justice William Rehnquist, 80, battling thyroid cancer, Senate Democrats soon may face a high-stakes decision on whether to filibuster a Supreme Court nomination, a move certain to ignite a ferocious fight with Bush and Republican senators

Democrats in 2004 used filibusters to block 10 conservative appellate court nominees who they said were outside the political mainstream. Frist has called the practice intolerable and threatened to rule that filibusters against judicial nominees are unconstitutional. Democrats say they would respond with an avalanche of parliamentary maneu

vers that would bring the entire Senate to a halt For now, both parties are playing a game of political chicken, unwilling to signal their intentions or temper their threats. Some Republicans say they can't believe Democrats would filibuster a Supreme Court pomination, which would draw wide spread attention. But many liberal groups will press Democrats to do just that if Bush nominates a staunch conservative who, among other things might seek to outlaw abortion.

The House plays no role in judicial nominations, but it will be in the midst of the other major looming battle: Social Security revisions. Bush has called for allowing workers to divert some of their payroll taxes to private accounts, which could be invested in stocks and bonds. Critics from both parties say the president has not explained how he would pay for the revisions, and many Democrats oppose any change whatsoever in Social Security.

# Shirley Chisholm, black pioneer in Congress, dies

By CORALIE CARLSON The Associated Press

MIAMI - Shirley Chisholm, an advocate for minority rights who became the first black woman elected to Congress and later the first black person to seek a major party's nomination for the U.S. presidency, has died. She

Chisholm, who took her seat in the U.S.



who criticized Congress as heing clubby and unrespon sive. An out-

House

Representa-

tives in 1969.

ing speaker

often

snoken champion of women and minorities during seven terms in the House, she also was a staunch critic of the Vietnam War.

She had been in declining health since suffering a series of small strokes last summer and died Saturday.

Chisholm ran for the Democratpresidential nomination in 1972, a campaign that was viewed as more symbolic than practical. She won 152 delegates before withdrawing from the race.

'I ran for the Presidency, despite hopeless odds, to dem strate the sheer will and refusal to accept the status quo," Chisholm said in her book "The Good Fight." "The next time a woman runs, or a black, a Jew or anyone from a group that the country is 'not ready' to elect to its highest office, I believe that he or she will be taken seriously from the

Chisholm represented New York's Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn and served until retiring in 1983. She also was a founding member of the Congres sional Black Caucus. The Rev. Jesse Jackson called

her a "woman of great courage."

Newly elected, she was as-signed to the House Agriculture Committee, which she felt was irrelevant to her urban constituency. In an unheard of move, she demanded reassignment and switched to the Veterans Affairs Committee.

Not long afterward she voted for Hale Boggs, who was white, over John Conyers, who was black, for majority leader. Boggs rewarded her with a place on the prized Education and Labor Committee and she was its third ranking member when she left.

My greatest political asset, which professional politicians fear, is my mouth, out of which come all kinds of things one shouldn't always discuss for reasons of political expediency," she told voters.In her book, "Un-bought and Unbossed," she recounted the campaign that brought her to Congress and wrote of her concerns about that body: "Our representative democracy is not working because the Congress that is supposed to represent the voters does not respond to their needs. I believe the chief reason for this is that it is ruled by a small group of old

Born Shirley St. Hill in New York City, on Nov. 30, 1924, she was the eldest of four daughters of Caribbean immigrants. She was married twice.



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### Former Va. governor now Richmond mayor

BY MICHAEL GLENNON The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder on Sunday took the oath of office to become Richmond's first popularly elected mayor in nearly six

After being sworn in by his former law partner, 4th U.S. Circuit Court Judge Roger Gregory, Wilder said Richmond's residents are the city's greatest strength.

"Starting today," he said, "you, the people, are in charge of Rich-mond."

He urged citizens to help him build a model city for Virginia and not to forget the solid founda-

tion Richmond already has. Wilder, 73, said he hopes to

give the people "a government that serves the people and not it-self." Those who ignore his warning to end corruption, he said, do so at their own peril.

Richmond cannot survive on its own, Wilder said, and asked for support from the communities surrounding the city. Wilder also said he wants an educational system that holds teachers, students and parents accountable.

He also urged Richmond residents to never accept poverty or crime as a natural state. All forms of crime, regardless of severity he said, are unacceptable and

The grandson of slaves, Wilder became the first black person elected as a state governor, defeat-ing Marshall Coleman in 1989.

# Politics, charity put bloggers on top in '04

### Survey finds growing readership of online journals, especially when it comes to news

By ANICK JESDANIIN The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Readership of online journals known as blogs grew significantly in 2004, driven by increased awareness of them during the presidential campaign and other major news events, according to a study released Sunday

Twenty-seven percent of online adults in the United States said in November they read blogs, compared with 17 percent in a February survey by the Pew Internet and American Life Project.

Blogs that cover the tsunami disaster and relief efforts are bound to boost readership further, said Lee Rainie, the project's director.

"The tsunami is one of those cataclysmic news moments where lots of people's per-ceptions change," Rainie said. "Awareness of blogs will grow dramatically. There's so much attention to the coverage on blogs and Web sites and first-person video as primary news sources

In the past week, blogs have shared information on giving money and finding missing family members, and several post ed first-person narratives and photos from the affected areas. The web of links that are fundamental to blogs made it possible to quickly disseminate information

that otherwise may have remained ob-Earlier in the year, politics was what

drove readers to blogs Democrat Howard Dean embraced blogs early, allowing supporters from around the country to organize and talk about the campaign informally, without needing to clear remarks with campaign headquarters. Many bloggers who supported his campaign provided links for readers to easily make campaign contributions over the Internet

Even after Dean's campaign fizzled, bloggers continued to pundit, and a handful were invited to cover the Democratic and Republican national conventions for the

Time magazine even named its first Blog of the Year, crediting the Power Line blog created by three lawyers for challenging mainstream media and questioning the validity of documents behind a "60 Minutes" report on President Bush's National Guard

CBS News anchor Dan Rather later anologized for airing the report

"Blogs have been around for several ears, but because of the coverage in the political campaign, a lot more people became aware of the idea of blogging and certainly went online to read blogs," Rainie

Though blog readership jumped, the per-

centage of online Americans who write blogs grew only slightly - to 7 percent in November, up from 5 percent early in the year. Blog creators tend to be male, afflu-ent, well-educated and young: 70 percent of them have high-speed connections at home, and 82 percent have been online at

least six years Despite the attention to blogging, a large number of Americans remain clueless only 38 percent of Internet users know what a blog is: online agglomerations of ideas, information and links, usually presented with the most recent postings on top, and often offering a mechanism for visitors to post comments

The survey, based on random telephone calls with 1,861 Internet users conducted Nov 4-30, has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points. The RSS question was based on a smaller sample of 537 Internet users and has an error margin of 4 percentage points.

James Denney director of product marketing for TiVo, emonstrates the new TiVoToGo feature at the company's headquarters in Alviso. Calif... last month. The upgrade will enable users to transfer their favorite programs from their television to their computers.



# TiVo introduces 'to go' service

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. - TiVo Inc. pioneered digital video recording as a new way of watching television when you want it.

Now it could be TV where you want it, too The long-awaited service feature called TiVo-ToGo, set to launch Monday, will give users their first taste of TiVo untethered.

No longer confined to TiVo digital video recorders in the living room or bedroom, subscribers will be able to transfer their recorded shows to PCs or laptops and take them on the road - as long as the

shows are not specially tagged with copy restrictions. Users also will be able to copy shows onto a DVD soon after — but not immediately — at the service launch, company officials said.

The mobile feature is a key step in TiVo's long-term vision of giving consumers more freedom with how and where they enjoy their favorite TV TiVo plans to extend TiVoToGo so it will work on other portable media gadgets as well.

The company, based in the south San Francisco Bay community of Alviso, eventually hopes to ex-

"It lays the foundation of moving content out of the living room," TiVo spokeswoman Kathryn Kelly

For now, the feature sets TiVo apart from its grow-ing list of competitors, such as cable operators that are introducing digital video recording features into their set-top-boxes.

Digital video recorders allow viewers to record TV shows onto hard disks, fast-forward through commercials and pause live broadcasts

TiVoToGo will be an automatic, free service up ade for subscribers who own stand-alone Series2 TiVo DVRs. It will not work for subscribers owning DirecTV-TiVo satellite boxes. Also, the technology will work only with computers based on Microsoft Corp.'s Windows XP or 2000 operating systems, al-though a version for Macintosh computers is planned, TiVo officials said.

The recorded shows are transferred to PCs or laptops via a home computer network. A media access code and password is assigned to each user's account, essentially restricting the transfer and playback of shows to household members with the same access code

### Organizers hoping for a secure and festive inaugural celebration

BY KATHERINE M. SKIBA Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE - President

Bush's recitation of the 35-word oath on Jan. 20 will be the centerpiece of four days of pageant-

ry, prayer and party-going.

The 55th inaugural, given the twin themes "Celebrating Freedom, Honoring Service," has thousands at work on what may he the costliest such extravaganza ever.

"We know the world will be watching," said Dallas business-woman Jeanne Johnson Phillips, chairman of the 55th Presidential Inaugural Committee.

Noting that inaugurals date to April 30, 1789, when George Washington was sworn in in New York City, Phillips said they are one of the country's greatest traditions when our nation stands together regardless of politics to embrace a new period of the life of our nation.

The twin themes were chosen to celebrate freedoms here and promote the goal of "freedom ev-erywhere for everyone," while showing gratitude to the U.S. Armed Forces serving abroad, Phillins said.

This year's festivities will feature nine official balls, one of them free to members of the military and their families, as well as three candlelight dinners featuring the president, the first lady, the vice president and his wife, plus the traditional parade and a lengthy lineup of events.

Official events begin Jan 18 and conclude the day after the inaugural with a prayer service at the Washington National Cathedral.

Committee spokesman Kevin Sheridan said inaugural planners hope to raise \$40 million. though some press accounts put the figure higher.

He said the inauguration promises to be inclusive, open, positive and spiritual.

Count on exclusivity, too, since special packages of tickets are being made available to those who donate \$250,000 (the "underwriter" package) and \$100,000 (the "sponsor" pack-

Donations to the inaugural are being capped at a quar-ter-million dollars, and contributors are being posted on the official Web site, www.inaugural05.com. Sheridan said.

As the political establishment plus hoteliers, party planners and tuxedo shops — prepares for the quadrennial onslaught of out-of-towners, several protest groups are planning to make their anti-administration views known

Sheridan, of the inaugural committee, said the organization is not concerned about pro testers disrupting

"This is not a hyper-partisan event," he said, "but people are very willing to express their opinions, one way or another.'

### Mistress writes book

FRESNO, Calif. - Scott Peterson's former mistress confesses in a book to be re-leased this week that she "still thinks about Scott from time to time." She also confesses that "I sometimes wonder if he thinks about

the Prosecution of Scott Peterson," is scheduled to be released Tuesday, but was mistakenly sold at a supermarket in Modesto, where Peterson's wife, Laci, disappeared.

### U.S. probes laser beams

NASHVILLE Tenn - Federal officials The book by Amber Frey, "Witness For are investigating an incident in which a laser beam was aimed at a jet after it left Nashville International Airport bound for

Pilots of a United Airlines flight heading to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on Sunday reported seeing a green laser beam shortly after takeoff, said United spokeswoman Robin Urbanski

The flight, which had about 30 people on

board, landed safely in Chicago, Federal agents are looking into similar

incidents involving lasers and aircraft, in-cluding cases in Cleveland: Washington. D.C.; Houston; Colorado Springs, Colo.; Medford, Ore.; and Teterboro, N.J

Laser beams can temporarily blind or

# **Rovers still going strong on Mars**

### **Explorations** let scientists see Red Planet in new light

BY JEREMY MANIER Chicago Tribune

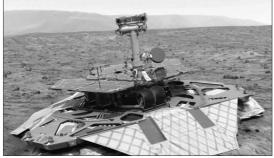
CHICAGO - As NASA's twin robotic rovers arrived at Mars one year ago, the planet that awaited them looked to many scientists like a vast, inert museum, where water and warmth gave way long ago to a cold and seemingly dead world.

That picture has shifted dramatically in a short time, experts say, thanks to findings from the rovers and other research efforts that suggest Mars remains a geologically dynamic planet with tantalizing hints of life.

The new Mars is an untamed place with possibly active volcanoes and geothermal springs, dry sea beds, recent glacier activity and traces of methane in its atmosphere. That last fact may prove the most intriguing, scientists say, because the mysterious methane could be coming from living Martian microbes

"Mars is not the same world in our minds today that it was one year ago," said Jeffrey Kargel, a researcher in astrogeology with the U.S. Geological Survey in Flagstaff. Ariz.

At the forefront of the revolution are the rovers Opportunity and Spirit, both of which have sur



In this photo released by WGBH-TV Boston, in November 2004, a Mars rover is shown before deploying. The rover is one of two that landed on Mars as part of the Mars Exploration Rover project.

vived longer than their designers' wildest hopes, and are still charting new ground one year after landing on opposite sides of the planet. Last March, Opportunity found bedrock containing the first tangible evidence that Mars once had shallow, salty seas - a discovery Science magazine dubbed its "Breakthrough of the Year."

Evidence for recent glaciers and volcanic activity, published Dec. 23 in the journal Nature, came from the European probe Mars Express, which has taken detailed photos of huge swaths of the Martian surface

The orbiter found relatively young lava flows in the craters of several Martian volcanoes, including Olympus Mons, the biggest volcano in the solar system at 15 miles high.

Scientists analyzing the Mars Express photos found a few meteor-impact craters in several of the lava fields - a sign the features formed within the last 2 million years or so.

"If you see evidence for activity from a couple million years ago, that means the planet is geologi-

cally alive today," said James Head, a professor of planetary science at Brown University and a co-author on the Mars Express

The new results already are spurring ideas for future unmanned missions. Head said one target could be the rocky mounds and ridges left by glaciers in the Martian tropics, where probes could find ice close to the surface.

The rovers durability is so striking that mission planners have set themselves a new task - sketching out what the probes might be doing a year or more from now.

### More snow in forecast for Calif.

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE. Calif. - Forecasters predicted more snow in the Sierra Neva-da on Monday, a day after holiday revelers returning home from mountain getaways ran into traffic delays and slippery highways

Winter storm and snow advisories remained in effect for the region, where some ski resorts in the Lake Tahoe area reported as much as 9 feet of snow at their peaks since late last week.

Stormy weather had arrived in northern California about a week ago.
"We're looking at several

shots of energy dropping around here, keeping us in a showery pattern for the next couple of days, then this system will continue dropping south and begin to affect Southern California more," said Karl Swanberg, a forecaster with the National Weather Service in Sacramento

The weather service said un to a foot more snow was possible in the northern Sierra. Interstate 80 and U.S. 50, the

two main routes across the Sierra, were closed intermittently last week, causing traffic backups as recently as Sunday, but were open Monday morning, ac-cording to the California Highway Patrol.
About half of the flights arriv-

ing at San Francisco International Airport on Sunday were delayed because of rain, but there were no delays Monday,

### **EXCHANGE RATES** Military rates

Dollar buys (Jan. 4)
British pound (Jan. 4)
Japanese yen (Jan. 5)
South Korean won (Jan. 4)
Commercial rates Bahrain (Dinar) British pound ... Canada (Dollar) Denmark (Krone) Egypt (Pound)..... Euro..... Hong Kong (Dollar) Hungary (Forint) .... Iceland (Krona) .....

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### PRECIOUS METALS

### INTEREST RATES Prime rate ...... Discount rate ..... Federal funds market rate 3-month bill

### **Cents and Sensibility** Money tip of the day Tips for returning gifts

NEW YORK - Here are some tips to make returning holidays gifts easier:

Make returns as soon after

the holidays as possible. Yes, the lines may be almost as long as — or longer than — the ones during the preholiday shopping season. But a speedy return can en-sure you get your refund before the New Year's sales go into ef-

■ Check for fees and restrictions. More retailers are charging restocking fees for large or big-ticket items such as televisions, digital cameras or computers. That's if they accept the return at all.

■ Before you trek to the store, call to ask about its return poli-

■ Bring the bells and whistles. If you're returning an item you bought, remember to bring your receipt and the credit card with which you originally pur-chased the item. Keep the item in its original packaging, and don't break any of the seals. If you're returning clothing, make sure all the tags are still affixed.

■ Be nice. Retailers are frazzled and overworked during the holiday season. Being patient and kind can get you a lot further with your return. This is esnecially true for items that are damaged, discontinued or otherwise returnable only at the em-

plovee's discretion.

Lump your returns into one or two transactions. Wait until vou've received all your gifts before sorting out which stores you must visit to make returns. More and more retailers are monitoring returns, even "blacklisting" customers who make too many. Such a move prevents scammers from perpetrating re-

turn fraud, in which they steal items and then return them to make money. If you have made or plan to

make a lot of returns this season. you might contact The Return Exchange to find out if you're on the blacklist. The company monitors return data for major retail. ers. You can find out if you're on the list by e-mailing ReturnActivityReport@TheReturnExchange.com

# Agriculture studies drawing urban kids

By JOHN SEEWER The Associated Press

TOLEDO Obio - Inside a greenhouse here, high school students studying hydrononics are growing lettuce and basil without

In Philadelphia, teenagers tend to a herd of cows. And in Minneapolis, students are researching how grass grows in different kinds of soil.

An increasing number of students in cities and suburbs are taking agriculture classes and considering careers in the industry even at a time when the number of farms is declining.

"We're not trying to teach cows, sows and plows," said Thomas Scott, principal at Saul High School for Agricultural Sciences in Philadelphia. "What we're really trying to do is teach skills so that they can apply them to science or any field they want to go

The National FFA Organization, formerly Future Farmers of America, says its membership of 476,000 students is the highest in 22 years.

Much of the growth has come

in urban schools, said snokesman Bill Stagg. The organization has programs in 11 of the nation's 15 biggest cities

What the students are learning. though, isn't traditional farming.

It's horticulture and landscaping. And it's fixing machinery and taking care of small animals. Students at Washington Park Horticulture Center in Cleveland grow poinsettias in the summer and fall and make floral arrangements for their annual holiday

"We're teaching them about the science, business and technology of agriculture," said Becky Meyer, director of the Agricultural and Food Sciences Academy in Little Canada, Minn.

One of the biggest challenges for agriculture educators is per-suading students to take the class-

But once students start learning about careers in agriculture, they realize they might want to be a commodities trader, veterinarian or florist, said Levon Esters, who taught agriculture-business

for three years in Chicago.

"Show me the money," he said.
"That's what it comes down to for



# Pieces of the past

# Mosaics inspire awe in Rayenna

BY KENT HARRIS

ere's a question to pose to someone with a cursory knowledge of Italian history: What was the most important city on the peninsula in the year 402 — and in the 300 or so years to follow?

Rome would be a good answer. But it wouldn't get many votes in Ravenna, which makes that claim itself. As the capital of the Roman Empire — or what was left of it — starting in 402, Ravenna was the center of civilization in Italy and remained so until about 750.

The Romans' rule lasted only about 75 years, when the city fell to the barbarians. Odoacer, calling himself king of Italy, then ruled from Ravenna. Theodric, king of the Ostrogoths, defeated him in 493 and made it his can

Several years after Theodric's death, a Byzantine army took the city, about 80 miles south of Venice, for the emperor in Constantinople. It stayed under Byzantine control for the next 200 years.

Early in the Byzantine period, a series of churches was built. A few structures still stand



tures still stand today. But it's the mosaics — works of art formed from

colored stones — inside those buildings that bring
most people to Ravenna now.

The Basilica of San Vitale boasts Byzantine-influ-

and or age of the church is a mix of red, white and orange on the outside.

Inside, the colors span the rainbow. The domed ceiling and other works higher on the walls were painted much later. But the apse, featuring portrayals of Jesus and other early Christian figures, is original work.

Count the portraits of the 12 apostles — and puzzle through their names in Latin — along with two Christian martyrs and Jesus that adorn the arch at the apse's entrance.

The price of admission also includes a visit to the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia in the same compound. Its small, dark interior contains mosaics that are even older, dating back a century earlier.

Three other venues are also on the ticket to San Vitale. One of them, the baptistery that's next to the city's duomo—or cathedral—also boasts ancient mosaics. It's a short walk through twisting streets away from San Vitale.

There are several other sites with mosaics of varying ages in and around the city. Among them: San Apollinare in Classe and San Apollinare Nuovo.

The famed poet Dante, who died in Ravenna in 321, is buried in the city's Church of San Francesco. Ravenna isn't always easy to navigate — by foot or car— and doesn't have as many of the helpful signs for tourists that some other cities do. That may change after the start of the year, when the tourist office hopes to put up more signs.

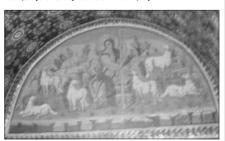
In the meantime, grab a map at the tourist office and be sure to take a camera to capture as many mosaics as possible.

E-mail Kent Harris at: harrisk@mail.estripes.osd.mil



PHOTOS BY KENT HARRIS/Stars and Strines

Mosaics along the walls and ceiling of the Basilica of San Vitale are still colorful, almost 1.500 years after they were created in Ravenna. Italy.



The Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, located in the same compound as the Basilica di San Vitale, contains the oldest wall mosaics in Ravenna.

### On the QT



There isn't a quick way to drive to Ravenna from the north From Aviano or Vicenza, get on SS309 near Mestre and follow it about 80 miles into Ravenna. Resist the temptation to pass, and watch out for Italians who can't Pass the time by counting the (slow) trucks. Alte\matively, take A-13 toward Bologna, exit at Ferrara Sud, pay about 6 euros toll, and head toward Porto Garibaldi. Then, take SS16 (Adriatica) to Ravenna. On the city outskirts, follow signs to the center



The Basilica of San Vitale and Mausoleum of Galla Placidia are open from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. In the summer, they stay open until 7 p.m. The cathedral baptistry and Basilica of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo, also included in the admission price, share the same hours.



A ticket that includes admission to five sites, including the basilica and mausoleum, costs 6.50 euros for adults and 5.50 euros for students; children under 10 are free. The parking lot next to the basilica costs 2.50 euros, but it's difficult to find. It's off Don Minzoni, a glorified alley that connects to via Maggiore. If you're facing the Porta Adriano (the large arch where via Maggiore ends), turn left at the light. take the first right and drive slowly until you reach the entrance to the left. It'll be a

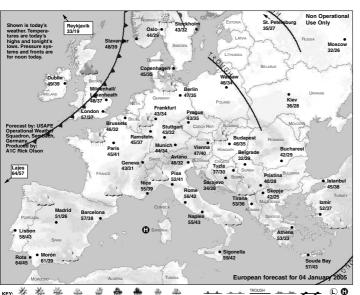


Try the local bread, piadina, or one of several pasta specialties: cappelletti, tagliatelle, strozze, preti and garganelli. There's also a pasta soup — passatelli.



The IAT tourist office is a few blocks from San Vitale. English is spoken. Its phone number is (+39) 0544-35404 or 0544-35755; its e-mail is turismo@comune.ravenna.it; and its Web site is www. turismo.ravenna.it.

- KENT HARRIS



### EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the 40s, Wednesday lows in

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rainshowers and high winds. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s, Wednesday lows in the

upper 30s

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly to mostly cloudy with fog. Highs in the upper 30s to low 40s, Wednesday lows in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

France: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s, Wednesday lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the 40s, Wednesday lows in the 30s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the low to mid 40s, Wednesday lows in the 30s. Hungary: Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the 40s,

Wednesday lows in the 30s. Northern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s to low 50s, Wednesday lows in the mid 20s to lower 30s.

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 50s, Wednesday lows in the mid 40s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 40s, Wednesday lows in the

Norway: Partly cloudy with isolated rain/snow showers. Highs in the 40s, Wednesday lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s to lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the mid 20s to mid 30s in the north, to the south lows are in the mid 30s to low 40s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with rainshow-ers. Highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s, Wednesday lows in the lower 30s to lower 40s.

For current weather watches, warnings and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

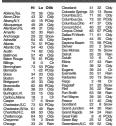
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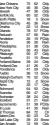


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### Printed in Italy by Editrice Telestampa

Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central effect, \$29,4140 S. NW. Stars \$50, Washington (2.0065-130), Ferdiciasts pootage paid at Washington, D.C. Postmaster. Send address changes to European Stars and Stripes, Unit 29400, APO AE 09211.

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able for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affilia tion, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

### Troops seek better support

I am a squad leader in the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment currently stationed at Camp Cooke, Taji, Iraq. I am writing in regards to an article published in the Dec. 27 Mideast edition ("Christmas patrol greeted by mud, firefight") about our brothers on patrol on Christmas Day

This Christmas was certainly one to remember, it was our first Christmas in Irag, I am a good friend of Sgt, Andrew Neason, who was in the Humvee that flipped over and left him temporarily submerged, and was part of the quick reaction force that escorted the M88 recovery vehicle that recovered Neason's Humvee from the canal. My letter regards events that happened after we got back into Camp Cooke and all tried to sit down and eniov Christmas dinner with our brothers

I was appalled to hear that Neason. who nearly drowned in that canal, and his crew were turned away or thrown out of the dining facility due to their muddy clothing and the close proximity to clos-ing time. We only had less than 30 minutes to secure our sensitive items, give a debrief and get dinner. It was Christmas; we had all been outside "the wire" to en sure that those who did not go out would not be harassed or worse by mortar and rocket fire from the insurgents. I am not saying we need to get medals and superfluous accolades for what we do, but for goodness sake let us eat and enjoy Christmas dinner with our family here in Iraq.

This is not an isolated incident. Those of us who conduct combat patrols on a regular basis are constantly singled out by those who do not for inconsequential faults and petty infractions of insignificant rules. Perhaps if they put their lives on the line on a daily basis as we do, they might begin to understand our perspec tive. I do understand we are in the Army, and the Army thrives on rules and regulations, but there is a waiver for nearly everything. At the very least exercise some

Sat Werner Tsin Camp Cooke, Iraq

### Give all-woman infantry a try

For the last decade. I've read letters to the editor about women in the infantry. women Rangers and women in combat I've reached the conclusion that we need an all-women infantry battalion. This would allow for those women who wish to serve in the same way as their brothers to do so without threatening some man's sexuality or emotional sensibility out on the battlefield

Not all women want to stay at home and raise children and not all women want to be in the infantry, just like many men do not either. That is why you have a choice when you join the Army. Let's have special tryouts where women can

### Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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compete to be part of an all-woman infantry battalion. If they make it, arm them with the tools and training to take out terrorists in an infantry capacity. This is not a unique and novel idea, but rather one that deserves to be given a chance in today's Army.

Maybe you're concerned with how it will look if the alleged weaker sex goes in and starts kicking butt. It's all good, we're on the same team and need to focus on the common goal of defeating terrorists. Don't let old-fashioned ideas and repression bind 50 percent of America's population — that sounds like the Taliban. We speak about equal opportunity and equal rights, but how do we practice that if we prevent women from filling in infantry jobs? Make me a general, bring back the Women's Army Corps and let's end this foolish sexist argument once and for all.

Staff Sgt. Joyce Costello Livorno, Italy

### Motorcycle test unnecessary

As an infantry first sergeant, I understand the issue of soldiers buying motorcycles for which they have had no training and little experience operating. This is an issue, and it needs to be addressed.

What I am having trouble with is the over-reaction concerning those with years of experience riding (more than 30 myself). Some "smart guy" needs to figure out that one size does not fit all when it comes to experience and abilities I have owned "crotch rockets" - high-performance sportbike motorcycles there is definitely a problem with these amounts of horsepower in the hands of someone with little training. However, my current situation is radically different. I have been riding since I was 7 years old, my current motorcycle will not go above 70 mph and I simply do not understand the roadblocks being thrown up in my path to enjoy an activity that my entire family enjoys so much.

When I return to Germany I will be

going on block leave to the States, then re turning to Germany. Now I am being told I have to take an additional Motorcycle Safety Foundation course in order to ride. This will take time away from either my family or from my soldiers.

Time from my family that is simply irre placeable and uncalled for; from my soldiers, not wise.

There are many things I love about the Army, but this is one issue that my wife and I have discussed as the possible straw that breaks the camel's back. After having survived being shot at, nearly being blown up multiple times and being responsible for more than 300 soldiers, I am being told that I am not responsible enough to determine whether I am safe enough to perform an activity I have been performing since I was a child.

1st Sgt. Michael Abbey Forward Operating Base Brassfield-Mora, Iraa

#### The buck stops where?

Excuses, excuses, excuses. Bernard Kerik's withdrawal as the president's nominee to head the Department of Homeland Security is just the latest of many debacles stemming from the incompetent actions of President Bush. Of course, Kerik withdrew his own name himself and publicly apologized to Bush (as well he should have), and Rudy Giuliani was quick to do the same. However, both men stepped in to draw attention away from the real issue: Bush's habitual poor judgment.

It's clear that "falling on the sword" to protect this president is not only com-mon, but necessary. Honest, competent leaders use good judgment and accept responsibility when failure is theirs. Yes, Kerik is responsible for his own wrongdoing, but Bush is responsible for selecting him in the first place. Are we really to believe that no one within this administration had the ability to check this guy out a little better?

Applicants for the position of night shift manager at Taco Bell probably have to submit to a more rigorous background check than did Kerik. Now, despite his withdrawal, information continues to surface about Kerik's rampant adultery and political corruption, further underscoring the extent of Bush's poor judgment. When is Bush going to use good judgment, and be man enough to accept re-sponsibility when he does not? Only cowards allow others to take the fall for them.

The excuses run many and deep with Bush: Prisoner abuse? A few "bad apples." The Valerie Plame affair? One "rogue" official. The Iraq mess? Everything's fine! It's the media's fault for not getting the story right. Here are some new concepts for Bush: Use better judgment in the first place, and accept responsibility when you're at fault. After all, where does the buck stop, Mr. President? Tim Mason

Camp Liberty Iraa

### **Doonesbury Flashbacks**









BY GARRY TRUDEAU

### OPINION

# Check the files: 'Sharing' movies is stealing

### BY EDWIN MEESE III

f John Adams and James Madison were alive today, they surely would marvel at how swiftly information can be exchanged via the Internet.

But they also would be alarmed, I believe, to see ordinary citizens using this extraordinary technology in growing numbers to shoplift copyrighted intellectual property. The Founders possessed, after all, a keen understanding of the threat this type of theft poses to a free society.

Property rights are not a novel concept. After some deliberation, our constitutional framers signaled how important it was to protect intellectual property by instilling the concept in our nation's charter in Article 1, Section 8, with a provision authorizing Congress to "promote the progress of science and the useful arts."

So deeply did the framers, in their founding document, embrace the concept of "progress" advanced through devotion to intellectual labor, that they mention it 24 separate times in the Federalist Papers.

As John Adams warned, "The moment an idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence." I fear that moment has come.

If thousands of books were stolen from libraries in a single day, school and library officials would immediately put heavy-duty security systems into place. Department store owners, by the same token, would hardly sit still if thieves were making off with armfuls of expensive clothing and jewelry.

Yet many otherwise law-abiding citizens

appear to think there's nothing wrong with doing essentially the same thing when it comes to intellectual property — as if stealing isn't stealing if you can do it with a computer in the comfort of your home or office.

The truth is, there is no difference between shoplifting a DVD from a store and illegally downloading a copyrighted movie from KaZaa

Stealing intellectual property is just as wrong as the theft of "real" property.

And the vast majority of people use so-called "peer-to-peer" file-sharing networks such as KaZaa, Morpheus and Grokster to download music and movies illegally. An overwhelming percentage of the 500 million files being "shared" at any given time are copyright-protected and thus owned by someone else.

Despite all the warning advertisements and the movie trailers, as well as new legal methods to download music and movies (such as you find at iTunes or CinemaNow), wholesale thievery is still taking place. A whopping 4 million users still partake in this dirty little game every day. So what is the victimized industry to do?

The movie industry recently took a bold new step to change the "so what" attitudes of so many. By initiating lawsuits against individuals stealing movies online, as well as revving up their public persuasion campaign, movie studios are taking a stand and making the message crystal clear. Stealing is stealing, and it must ston.

The cultural and economic value of creative films is undeniable. Today, the copyright industries are among America's largest and fastest growing economic assets.



Video shops in Afghanistan — such as this one in Kabul — are doing brisk business on bootleg DVDs and CDs. Nineteenth-century U.S. President James Madison said that "government is instituted to protect property of every sort," but intellectual property is not sacred in the United States, either.

They account for more than 5 percent of our gross domestic product, pouring \$535 billion into the U.S. economy. The film industry alone provides \$80,000 well-paying jobs.

But this awesome engine of economic growth is threatened by the explosive growth of high-tech petty theft. Smith Barney estimates that if something is not done, movie industry losses will exceed a whopping \$5.4 billion by 2005.

If James Madison was right - that "gov-

ermment is instituted to protect property of every sort," if this objective is "the end of government," and "that alone is a just government which impartially secures to every man whatever is his own" — then these movie studios are just doing what any potential theft victim would do: They are protecting property that is rightfully theirs.

Edwin Messe III, a former U.S. attorney general, is the Ronald Reagan Distinguished Fellow in Public Policy at The Heritage Foundation and chairman of the Washington-based think tank's Center for Legal and Judicial Studies.

# These stories show what Iraq can be with our help

he Iraq story has always had a personal dimension for this columnist. Having covered the story since the first Gulf War, I've acquired many Iraqi friends and acquaintances. Some are

Trudy Rubin

Trudy Rubin

Trudy Rubin

Turn I their suffers am have since I Whe shout

exiles, who gave up comfortable lives in the United States to return home to rebuild their country. Some suffered under Saddam Hussein. Some have been murdered since his overthrow.

Whenever I think about the tall odds against creating a stable Iraq, their faces come to mind.

It's easy to get angry at gross administration mistakes that led to the current Iraq mess and played into the hands of Iraqi insur-

and played into the hands of Iraqi insurgents. But if the Bush administration fails to stabilize Iraq before drawing down U.S. troops, ordinary Iraqis will pay dearly. Of course, a total U.S. debacle in Iraq

Or course, a total U.S. debacte in Iraq would also destabilize the entire Middle East and give al-Qaida a bonanza. But when I think of why such a debacle must be prevented, my mind keeps turning to the Iraqis I've known. I think of Sayid Abdul Majid al-Khoei, the

I timik of sayid Abdul Majid air-Anoel, the son of a revered Shitic cleric. Khoei made a fateful choice to return to southern Iraq with American assistance at the beginning of the war. He wanted to act as a bridge between the Americans and the Shitir religious establishment.

He risked his life in the hope that he could

help U.S. officials overcome Shiite distrust of their intentions.

Shortly after he arrived in Najaf, he was hacked to death by followers of a radical Shiite cleric who opposed the U.S. intervention. Did Khoei die in vain, or do his hopes for an Iraq that openly tolerates all branches of

Islam as well as other religions still stand a chance?

I think of Fareed Yasseen, son of a senior

Iruiii ko i rateeu rasseen; son or a senou raqi diplomat who defected after Saddam came to power. Yasseen grew up in Europe, graduated from MIT, and spent years working on Iraqi human-rights issues. He left a comfortable life in Cambridge, Mass., to return to Baghdad and work with Sunni moderate politician Adnan Pachachi.

Now in the foreign ministry, Yasseen has had relatives murdered and mutilated in recent months, a friend kidnapped, and has escaped from car bombs. But he stays on.

I think of Siham Hamdan, a young Shiite professor of English literature from the Baghdad slum now known as Sadr City, who wears full religious headdress and long robe. Backed by her brothers, who were imprisoned under Saddam, she was brave enough to become a member of a district council appointed by the Americans to represent her neighborhood. I also think of Riyadh Nassir al-Adhadh, a physician from one of the most anti-American Sumi neighborhoods in Baghdad, who was chosen to sir in the Baghdad city Council set up by U.S. officials. Although he opposed the invasion, he decided he wanted to work from the inside to change his country and to end the U.S. occupation. His reputation for helping the poor is such that Sumi insurgents haven't attacked him.— last I.

I think of Hanna Edwar, who is running a nongovernmental agency. Al-Mand, to help Iraqi women. She organized a national women's conference in June (with U.S. financial aid) in the hopes that Iraqis could learn the meaning of "civil society," the concept that grassroots efforts outside state control are essential counterweights to centralized power.

And I think of my translator, S. (I use his initial because the current situation for Christians in Iraq is so dire he wouldn't

want his name used.) He wrote recently that "the situation in Baghdad is getting worse by the day for us Christians. We are so vulnerable with all these churches (sic) bomb-

ings.
"In Mosul, Islamic clerics on Friday preach advice not to buy houses from Christians because they will leave and we will have it for free." He also wrote of threats during Ramadan "that any women without yell will be sprayed with acid regardless of religion." S. continues to translate for foreigners be-

 continues to translate for foreigners be cause he wants to work.

It's hard to be optimistic about Iraq's future right now. The Iraqis I know are mostly among the minority who are willing to risk their lives to try to build a decent Iraq. I know their task is uphill. Yet, given their courage, I have to hope that mistakes by the U.S. can be repaired, at least enough to give these Iraqis a decent hope of normal lives. Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for The Philadelphia Inquire.

By BRUCE TINSLEY

### **Mallard Fillmore**

T.V. Executives:

"WE PESONE TO
RELIVE ALL OUR
CHILDHOODS...

WITH STUFF ONCE
ONLY FOUND...

ONLY FOUND...

WHE BATHROOM
WALLS IN
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PAGE 18 · STARS AND S

### **Gambling on resort**

PA HARRISBURG — A Scranton businessman with close ties to a Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board member has purchased a once-famous 600-room resort in the Poconos for \$25.1 million, fueling speculation he may seek a slot-machine casing license

The sale of the Mount Airy Lodge in

Mount Pocono was recorded in the Monroe County Courthouse more than three years after it ceased operations. The buyer was a corporation headed by Louis A. DeNaples, whose enterprises include a large auto-parts store, a landfill and vast real-estate holdings.

DeNaples is a former client of Scranton lawyer William P. Conaboy, a health care executive appointed to the gambling commission by state Senate Democratic leader Robert J. Mellow, whom Conaboy once served as an aide.

Through a Gaming Control Board spokesman, Conaboy described DeNaples as "a friend" and said he would disclose any relevant details of their relationship if DeNaples pursues a slots license.

### House collapse kills man

AUSTIN — A man who died when a house collapsed during renovations has been identified.

Authorities said Francisco Javier Aguilar, 35, of San Antonio, died in the accident. Aguilar, a construction worker, was trapped underneath the 100-year-old home he was helping to renovate. Witnesses said the two-story house had been lifted off the ground and was resting on cinder blocks when it collapsed.

Austin police and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration are investigating.

The construction company, Austin House Leveling & Soil Stabilization Inc., said the collapse was the first of its kind in its history, and it is working with OSHA to determine the cause.

### 36 hurt at sledding party

ND MINOT — Thirty-six children were injured in a sledding accident during an all-night New Year's Eve party hosted by a religious organization.

Three of the children were hospitalized, but all were in stable condition, hospital officials said. The others were treated and released.

Police Sgt. Winston Black said more than 100 children ages 12 to 19 attending a Youth for Christ event gathered at a high school around 4 a.m. to slide down a hill using sleds built out of cardboard boxes.

A sign posted on the hill prohibited sledding.

The children and Youth for Christ staff piled eight to 12 passengers on the sleds, then went down the hill in quick succession, Black said. "The sleds struck rocks, a light pole and each other," he said.

### Company closes stores

MA BRAINTREE — J.L. Hammett Co., the country's oldest school-supply company — whose founder invented the black-board eraser — is closing its 52 retail stores nationwide after 141 years.



The Braintree-based company will continue to sell merchandise on its Web site, The Patriot Ledger of Quincy reported.

### Construction accident

TX HOUSTON — A highway construction worker was flown to a hospital after a piece of rebar fell about 40 feet and pierced his face.

Officials said the ridged piece of a steel bar impaled the unidentified worker on the Katy Freeway construction project in west Houston. He was airlifted to Memorial Hermann Hospital. His condition was not known.

### Home invasion foiled

UPPER ARLINGTON—Two men accused of invading a couple's home and forcing an elderly man to withdraw \$10,000 from his bank were arrested after tellers noticed a bruise on the 73-year-old man's forehead and alerted police.

Two men entered the home of John and Judith Hansel in a Columbus suburb, said police spokesman Officer Don Stanko.

According to police reports, Robert E. Jackson, 23, forced John Hansel to drive his car to a bank while Michael Lathon, 19, stayed with Judith Hansel, 66. Jackson allegedly ordered Hansel to with-



Photo hijinx

Joey, 3, and Delanie Donovan, 8, of Carlisle, Iowa, pose as the famous couple in the "American Gothic" painting while visiting the State Historical Building in downtown Des Moines. Iowa. draw the money, but suspicious tellers called police, Stanko said.

Police chased the car, which Jackson crashed nearby, Stanko said. He was arrested and Hansel told officers his wife was at home with Lathon.

A police SWAT team sent a trained dog into the couple's home, and Judith Hansel had worked free from the duct tape that bound her and escaped, Stanko said. Lathon surrendered, police said.

### Club fights fine

GA ATLANTA — A country club sued the city after it was fined for refusing to extend spousal benefits to the partners of two gay members.

A lawsuit filed by Druid Hills Golf Club seeks to block a \$500-per-day fine ordered by Mayor Shirley Franklin until the club grants the benefits.

It also asks a judge to throw out the city's human rights ordinance, which requires businesses to treat people registered in the city as domestic partners as married couples. Franklin said the club violated the ordinance by refusing to extend spousal benefits, including golf privileges, to two gay members.

### Too warm for Rudolph?

WA SEATTLE — If global warming continues, some reindeer may go down in history — and never come back.

An archaeologist at the University of Washington, Donald Grayson, believes those reindeer, or caribou as they're also known in North America, could disappear from the

southern borders of their habitat.
On this continent, that could spell the end for herds roaming mountains in Washington, Idaho, southern British Columbia and Al-

The woodland caribou, which lives in the mountains in small herds, is considered the most endangered large mammal in the lower 48 states and can be found only in the Selkirk Mountains in northeastern Washington and northern Idaho.

### Teacher gets 100 years

PARIS — A retired teacher offered a five-year plea bargain in a sexual misconduct case instead received a 100-year prison sentence after a new district attorney frowned on the deal and asked a jury for the maximum penalty.

Scott received 20 years each on three counts of inducing a child younger than 18 to engage in sexual conduct, 10 years on each of three counts of producing or promoting a videotape involving sexual conduct, and 10 years on each of three counts of possession of child pornography.

The jury recommended the maximum sentence that County Attorney Gary Young asked it to deliver. Young defeated former prosecution Mark Burtner in the Democratic Party primary earlier this year. When Burtner chose to resign and take a job in El Paso in August, four months before the end of his term, county commissioners appointed Young to take office immediately.

Upon learning of the plea bargain offer in Scott's case, Young saw that it had not yet been responded to and took it off the table, spokesman Allan Hubbard said.



Hungry fowl Brandon Williams, 3, of Alliance, Ohio, feeds the ducks at the Broadway Wharf in East Liverpool, Ohio, while visiting his grandparents for the holidays.



Frozen reflection
Lac La Belle in Oconomowoc, Wis.

A melting ice cover mirrors Adam Both as he secures an ice boat on



Squirrel heads out for a run

A squirrel jumps through fresh snow in a Great Falls, Mont., yard.



Field of fire Hay at a Vado, N.M., dairy that had caught fire continues to burn as the sun sets. No injuries were reported and the cause of the fire had not been determined.



Hanging on Christina Thomas, left, and Trista Casey hang onto each other as they try to avoid a fall while skating in Fort Smith, Ark.



Historic run

Despite the rain, Robert Kraft, shirtless, ends 2004 with a run on the sands of Miami Beach. Kraft, 53, by his own account, has run eight miles on the same stretch of beach every day at the same time for the past 30 years without missing a day. Kraft, who is also known as "The Raven," started his running streak on Jan. 1, 1975.

### Rally against police

JACKSONVILLE — About 200 people chanting "No justice, no peace" marched through the city to protest the deaths of two black men in police custody.

At a rally on the steps of the Jacksonville sheriff's office, U.S. Rep. Corrine Brown, civil rights leaders and ministers called for the creation of a citizens review board to look into police brutality.

A white police officer has resigned since the death of one of the men, Sammie Lee Evans, 49, whose neck was broken as police tried to arrest him on Dec. 3 for possession of an open container of alcohol outside his home.

### **Diversity shortfalls**

MA BOSTON — Most Massachusetts cities and towns ordered to diversify their police and fire departments in the 1970s have met their racial hiring goals, but 17 police and fire departments in 12 cities and towns have not.

Chelsea, Lawrence and Holyoke, with black and Hispanic populations ranging from 45 percent to
65 percent, have police and fire departments that are only about 20
percent minority, making them the
furthest from reaching their goals
of "parity" with their cities 'minority populations, according to a Boston Sunday Globe analysis.

Fire departments in Cambridge and Newton, and police departments in New Bedford and Winthrop, have reached racial parity, but are still abiding by the consent decrees and hiring based on race.

### Divorce refused

WA SPOKANE — A judge has refused to grant a divorce to a pregnant woman trying to leave her husband two years after he was jailed for beating her, ruling instead that she must wait until the child is born.

Shawnna Hughes' husband was convicted of abuse in 2002. She separated from him after the attack and filed for divorce last April. She later became pregnant by another man and is due in March.

Her husband, Carlos, never contested the divorce, and the court commissioner approved it in October. But the divorce papers failed to note that Hughes was pregnant, and when the judge found out, he rescinded the divorce.

"There's a lot of case law that says it is important in this state that children not be illegitimized," Superior Court Judge Paul Bastine told The Spokesman-Review newspaper.

Hughes' attorney, Terri Sloyer, said nothing in state law says a pregnant woman cannot get a di-

Under Washington state law, a husband is presumed to be the father of any child born within 300 days of a divorce. The judge argued that the paternity of the child needs to be determined before a divorce can be finalized.

### Double shooting in dorm

RICHMOND—An employee at a state school for the developmentally disabled shot a female co-worker, then killed himself authorities said

The woman, who was shot several times in a dormitory at the Richmond State School, was expected to survive, said Chief Deputy Craig

Brady of the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Department. Neither employee was identi-

fied, and no one else was injured.

### Endangered no more?

WATERBURY — Population growth among species has prompted state officials to consider removing ospreys, loons and peregrine falcons from Vermont's list of threatened and endangered species.

Meanwhile, black terns, upland sandpipers and two snakes — the eastern rat snake and the eastern racer — may be added to the lists after a public hearing set for later this month.

The need for revisions to the list "shows we have a conservation program that was a success and we should be celebrating that," said Craig McLauglin, director of wildlife for the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

### Bat victim makes history

WI WAUWATOSA — A teenager who became the first person known to survive rabies without a vaccination has gone home after nearly 11 weeks in the hospital, officials said.

Jeanna Giese, 15, was infected when a bat bit her at church in September but she did not immediately seek treatment. She began showing symptoms of rabies in mid-October.

A team of physicians at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin gambled on an experimental treatment and induced a coma as part of efforts to stave off the usually fatal infection.

### Program trimming fat

PA EMMAUS — Despite some early mistakes that drew criticism and national attention, a school district effort to fight childhood obesity has shown promising results in its first few years, the district said.

The East Penn School District in Emmaus said its campaign which includes confidential letters to parents, healthier vending machine fare and walking clubs helped achieve an 18 percent drop in the number of overweight students and a 50 percent drop in the number of underweight students in the past school year.

#### Casino rush

MONTICELLO — Since weeds started sprouting around the boarded-up Borschi Belt hotels, some locals have looked to casinos to fill the void. A state plan approved in 2001 allowed up to three Indian casinos in hopes of attracting a new breed of tourists playing craps instead of canasta.

Now suddenly — after maneuvering by the Pataki administration — locals are looking at up to five casinos in this timeworn corner of the Catskills.

Under deals that would settle long-standing land claims, New York's Cayugas want to build at the Monticello Raceway and the Seneca-Cayugas of Oklahoma want to build at the site of the Concord, a big, shuttered Borschit Belt hotel. Also possible is a casino at Kutsher's hotel involving the Mohawks of northern New York and the proposals require state and federal anorwal.

Stories and photos from wire services

	AFRTS Television Schedule							
Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/								
				TUESDAY, JANUARY				
	(AFN-FAMILY)	AFN-MOVIE	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00	Stanley Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Movie * * "Two Against Time" (2002, Drama) Marlo	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy! Headline News	Nightline Army Newswatch	Auto Racing FIA World Rally Championship, From Finland.	30-Minute Meals Sweet Dreams	Jeopardy! Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI)	Thomas, Joe Penny, Ellen Muth.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews	(Taped)	Best for Less	ESPNews
10:30	Reading Rainbow (EI)	(:43) Movie ★★★5 "A Place	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block		Auto Racing FIA World Rally	Stripped	Pacific Report
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	in the Sun" (1951) Mont- gomery Clift, Elizabeth Taylor. A		Smallville "Obsession"	The O'Reilly Factor	Championship. From Germany. (Taped)	E News	Smallville "Obsession"
11:30 12:00	Stanley Dora the Explorer (EI)	factory worker threatens a	(:17) General Hospital Headline News	Movie ** * "The Others"	FOX News	SportsCenter	The King of Queens That '70s Show	Movie Av "Mission to Mare"
12:30	The Wiggles "Play"	man's romance with an heiress.	Judge Judy	1(2001, Horror) Nicole Kidman.	I OX News	Sportsoenter	Girlfriends	Movie *s "Mission to Mars" (2000) Gary Sinise. Astronauts
13:00	Bob the Builder	Movie ** "St. Elmo's Fire" (1985, Drama) Rob Lowe, New	Today New Year New You; Jen-	Strange occurrences plague a widow at an isolated mansion.	Fox and Friends	College Football Teams to Be	Charmed "Oh My Goddess"	race to the red planet to rescue a colleague.
13:30	Dragon Tales "Quibbling Sib- lings; Wheezie's Hairball" Zak	(1985, Drama) Hob Lowe, New college graduates try to find	nifer Finnigan.		Fox and Friends	Announced. (Taped)		Pacific Report
14:00	wants to catch a Jugglebug. (EI)	their niche in the world.		Pacific Report The Tonight Show	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal "Cloudy Skies, Chance of Parade"	The Tonight Show
15:00	Funniest Home Videos	(2:47) Movie * * * "Mission:	l Spy		American Morning		Any Day Now	
15:30	Full House "Crushed"	Impossible 2" (2000, Action) Tom Cruise, Dougray Scott,	Animaniacs	Late Show				Late Show
16:00 16:30	Pokémon Yu-Gi-Oh!	Thandie Newton.	All Grown Up Teen Kids News (EI)	Access Hollywood	CNN Live Today	NFL Live	ER "Kisangani"	Access Hollywood
17:00	Doug "Doug's Last Birthday"	The Entertainers	Jeopardy!	Headline News	ł	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Empire"	Headline News
17:30	Rocket Power		Headline News	The Late Late Show	i			The Late Late Show
18:00	The Fairly OddParents	Behind the Scenes	ESPNews		FOX News	College GameDay	Everybody Loves Raymond	
18:30	Rugrats The garbage truck. The Proud Family	Entertainment Tonight  Movie *** "Adaptation."	Headline News Smallville "Obsession"	Dennis Miller	DaySide With Linda Vester	College Football Nokia Sugar	Everybody Loves Raymond Star Trek: Enterprise "Simili-	Dennis Miller
19:00	The Amanda Show	(2002) Nicolas Cage, A neurotic	Omanville Ousessun	Countdown With Keith Olber-	Day Side Willi Lilius vester	Bowl Auburn vs. Virginia	tude"	Countdown With Keith Olber-
20:00	Everwood "The Unveiling"	screenwriter has trouble with a	Movie ★% "Mission to Mars"	mann	FOX News	Tech. From New Orleans.	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-	mann
20:30				Entertainment Studios.com			tion Robotic sports.	Entertainment Studios.com
21:00	Sister, Sister	(:09) Movie ** * "The Game" (1997) Michael Douglas. A busi-	a collegatue	The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith		Jamie's Kitchen	The Hot List
21:30	Sister, Sister The Cosby Show	nessman takes part in an unusu-	Headline News	Headline News Good Morning America	Your World With Neil Cavuto		Friends	Headline News Good Morning America
22:00	Home Improvement	al form of recreation.	The Tonight Show	GOOD MOTHING AMERICA	Too. World Wild Nell CavUto	NFL Live	Seinfeld "The Watch"	GOOD MOTHING ATTRICE
23:00	Touched by an Angel "Elijah"	Movie ★★% "Beverly Hills	1 -		Lester Holt Live	Around the Horn	The Daily Show	
23:30		Cop III" (1994, Drama)	Late Show			Pardon the Interruption	Blind Date	
	Aaahh! Real Monsters	[144 AM 14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	I/44 000 1 -1 - 00	WEDNESDAY, JANUA Play With Me Sesame		SportsCenter	It is seen	Inc. upa u a
00:00 00:30	Adann: Heal Monsters Rocket Power	(11:00) Movie ** "Beverly Hills Cop III" (1994)	(11:30) Late Show Access Hollywood	Bear in the Big Blue House	Headline News NBC Nightly News	Sportscenter	Late Night	Play With Me Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	(12:46) Movie ★★★% "The	College GameDay	4 Qtrs	ABC World News Tonight	NBA Basketball Teams to Be	Star Trek: Enterprise "Simil-	4 Qtrs
1:30	Rugrats	Longest Yard" (1974, Comedy) Burt Reynolds, Eddie Albert			CBS Evening News	Announced. (Live)	tude"	
2:00	The Proud Family The Amanda Show	Bernadette Peters.	College Football FedEx Or-	College Football FedEx Or- ange Bowl Oklahoma vs.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		CSI: Crime Scene Investiga- tion Robotic sports.	College Football FedEx Or-
2:30 3:00	The Amanda Show Everwood "The Unveiling"	Movie ★★★% "Adaptation."	ange Bowl Oklahoma vs. USC. (Live)	USC. (Live)	Hannity & Colmes		Jamie's Kitchen	ange Bowl Oklahoma vs. USC. (Live)
3:30	Everwood The Onvening	(2002) Nicolas Cage. A neurotic			mannity & connes	NBA Nation	Danie o Kitchen	
4:00	Sister, Sister	screenwriter has trouble with a			Headline News		Friends	
4:30	Sister, Sister				Nightly Business Report		Seinfeld "The Watch"	
5:00 5:30	Sesame Street (EI)	(:09) Movie ** * "The Game" (1997) Michael Douglas, A busi-	ESPNews	Guiding Light	Lou Dobbs Tonight	SportsCenter	Breathingspace Yoga Caribbean Workout	Guiding Light
6:00	Barney & Friends Fire safety.	nessman takes part in an unusu- al form of recreation	Headline News	1	Larry King Live	Around the Horn	Body Shaping	1
6:30	Blue's Clues (EI)		Headline News	(:18) General Hospital		Pardon the Interruption	TIPical Mary Ellen	(:18) General Hospital
7:00 7:30	Dragon Tales (EI) Bob the Builder	The Entertainers	Play With Me Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House	Larry King Live	NewsNight With Aaron Brown	NFL Total Access	The View	Sylvester & Tweety Buzz Lightyear of Star
8:00	The Wiggles	Behind the Scenes	Blue's Clues Costume party.	The Fairly OddParents	BET Nightly News	SportsCenter	Emeril Live	The Fairly OddParents
8:30	Dora the Explorer	Entertainment Tonight	Wheel of Fortune	My Life as a Teenage Robot	Tavis Smiley	оролоссии	Linein Ene	My Life as a Teenage Robot
9:00	Stanley	Movie ★★ "The Princess and	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline		30-Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
9:30	Sagwa-Siamese Cat Arthur (FI)	the Marine" (2001) Mark-Paul Gosselaar, Marisol Nichols.	(0.40) O	Headline News ESPNews	Headline News Hardball With Chris Matthews	Announced. (Taped)	Food 911 Sensible Chic	Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI) Reading Rainbow (EI)	(:43) Movie +++ "In the Line	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey (:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block	narouali with Chris Matthews		Sensible Chic Fashion File	Pacific Report
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	of Fire" (1993, Suspense) Clint	Carry Languages	The Parkers	The O'Reilly Factor		E! News Live	The Parkers
11:30	Stanley "Mistaken Mermaid"	Eastwood, John Malkovich. A veteran Secret Service agent	(:17) General Hospital	Arrested Development		NBA Fastbreak	The King of Queens	Arrested Development
12:00	Dora the Explorer (EI)	battles a vicious assassin.	Headline News	The Casino	FOX News	SportsCenter	That '70s Show	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition
12:30 13:00	The Wiggles "Safety"  Bob the Builder	Movie *** "Children of a	Judge Judy Today Michael Keaton: New	The District	Fox and Friends	College Football Teams TBA.	Girlfriends Charmed "A Witch's Tail" (Part	Lost
13:00	Dragon Tales "A Tall	Lesser God" (1986) William	Year New You; celebrity work-			(Taped)	1 of 2)	I
14:00	Tale/Stormy Weather' Eunice loses her glasses. (EI)	Hurt. A teacher tries to reach a proud deaf former student	outs.	Pacific Report	Fox and Friends	1	Ally McBeal "Queen Bee"	Pacific Report
14:30	Funniest Home Videos	(:13) Movie ** "Striking Dis-	Sylvester & Tweety	The Tonight Show	American Morning		Any Day Now "Unfinished	The Tonight Show
15:00 15:30	Full House "Spellbound"	tance" (1993) Bruce Willis. A	Sylvester & Tweety Buzz Lightyear of Star	Late Show	American Morning		Any Day Now "Untinished Symphony"	Late Show
16:00	Pokémon	serial killer stalks women	The Fairly OddParents	1	CNN Live Today		Third Watch 'Welcome to	1
16:30	Yu-Gi-Oh!	known by an outcast ex-cop.		Access Hollywood	1 .	NFL Live	Camelof"	Access Hollywood
17:00	Doug "Doug's New School"	Inside the Actors Studio "Jean Moreau" Jean Moreau.	Jeopardy!	Headline News	l	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Ambitious"	Headline News
17:30 18:00	Rocket Power The Fairly OddParents	Coming Attractions	Headline News AFNews on Assignment	The Late Late Show	FOX News	College Gameday	The Simpsons	The Late Late Show
18:00	Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	Headline News	Dennis Miller	OA HEWS	College dalileday	Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
19:00	Even Stevens	Movie ★★% "The Fast and	The Parkers	1	DaySide With Linda Vester	College Football FedEx Or-	The Amazing Race	
19:30	Kenan & Kel	the Furious" (2001) Paul Walk- er. An undercover cop infiltrates	Arrested Development	Countdown With Keith Olber-		ange Bowl Oklahoma vs.		Countdown With Keith Olber-
20:00	Gilmore Girls "Like Mother, Like Daughter"	the world of street racing.	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition	mann	FOX News		Andromeda "Knight, Death & the Devil"	mann
20:30	Degrassi: Next	(8:47) Movie * * "Runaway	Lost	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith		Discovery Specials: Fire: The	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List
21:00	Degrassi: Next	Bride" (1999) Julia Roberts. A	Lust	Headline News	Journa D Mills Strepard Smith		Nature of the Beast	Headline News
22:00	The Cosby Show	columnist tries to get the scoop on a commitment-shy gal.	Headline News	Good Morning America	L		Friends	Good Morning America
22:30	Home Improvement		The Tonight Show	1	Your World With Neil Cavuto	NFL Live	Seinfeld "The Bubble Boy"	
23:00	Touched by an Angel "Last Dance"	Movie * "Ladybugs" (1992) Rodney Dangerfield, Jackee.	Late Show	1	Lester Holt Live	Around the Horn Pardon the Interruption	The Daily Show Blind Date	1
23:30		, bungamou, aubiec.	Late SilVW			raidon the interruption	Dillio Date	1



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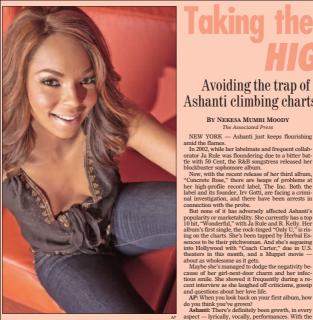
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### **FACES**



Singer Ashanti has done her best to stay above the fray as feuding between collaborator Ja Rule and rapper 50 Cent has caused wave throughout the music business. Her latest album, "Concrete Rose," recently was released and fans have responded positively.

### Avoiding the trap of a public hip-hop feud, Ashanti climbing charts again with new release

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Ashanti just keeps flourishing

amid the flames In 2002, while her labelmate and frequent collaborator Ja Rule was floundering due to a bitter bat-

blockbuster sophomore album. Now, with the recent release of her third album "Concrete Rose," there are heaps of problems at her high-profile record label, The Inc. Both the label and its founder, Irv Gotti, are facing a criminal investigation, and there have been arrests in

connection with the probe But none of it has adversely affected Ashanti's popularity or marketability. She currently has a top 10 hit, "Wonderful," with Ja Rule and R. Kelly. Her album's first single, the rock-tinged "Only U, ing on the charts. She's been tapped by Herbal Essences to be their pitchwoman. And she's segueing into Hollywood with "Coach Carter," due in U.S. theaters in this month, and a Muppet movie

about as wholesome as it gets Maybe she's managed to dodge the negativity because of her girl-next-door charm and her infectious smile. She showed it frequently during a recent interview as she laughed off criticisms, gossip

and questions about her love life AP: When you look back on your first album, how do you think you've grown?

Ashanti: There's definitely been growth, in every aspect — lyrically, vocally, performances. With the first album, although I had a lot of input, it was always up to Gotti. And with this one, we both have to compromise (laughs). [But] I absolutely trust Gotti. He's obviously been in the game longer, way longer. AP: Ja Rule has suffered from a lot of criticism

for more than a year, and 50 Cent and his clique even targeted you in his feud with Ja. Were you worried that it would affect your career?

Ashanti: I kind of got pulled into some of the negativity going on. As far as it affecting me, obviously, as a person, I'm like, "What? I'm a girl! I don't have nothing to do with this." But other than that, I'm like, I'm gonna do me. I held it down for my big brothers, and that was that.

AP: Did you wanna jump into the fray, or did you want to keep your head down low?

Ashanti: Well, there were a few times, when they kind of had to [say], "Listen, you're not a dude! You can't say that and you can't go and do nothin! You're five feet! Shut up!"

Certain things will get under your skin especially when you know that it's wrong, and you know that you have nothing to do with it, and you know you're innocent. So yeah, there were times when I was putting my big coat on, and my Timberlands (laughs). But you've gotta take it with a grain of salt. It's part of the territory, and you can't let other people change who you are as a person.

AP: Are you worried at all about the future of The Inc. or Gotti?

Ashanti: I'll just say I don't want anything negative to happen. The guys are too good, everyone's heart is too good for any negative stuff to happen. AP: How did you get into acting?

Ashanti: It's something that I wanted to experience just to know if I would like it or not. I did a couple of school plays in high school, and my drama teacher would always give me kudos and said that I should pursue it. It wasn't heavy on my mind when I got into the industry, like, "I have to do a movie, I have to act." It was kind of something where I said later on, if the opportunities present itself, I'd wanna try it.

### 'Open Water' different in real life

Married filmmakers Chris Kentis and Laura Lau escaped being pulled into a real-life version of their thriller

"Open Water" when the resort island of Phuket in Thailand was struck by last weekend's

"I heard people yelling, 'Run, run!" said Kentis, who wrote and directed the 2003 sleeper hit about two scuba divers stranded in shark-infested waters. "I looked behind me and I thought, 'This is what happens in a movie when there's a tidal wave.' You could hear the rumbling and this wave was coming right at us.

Kentis, 41, told The Associated Press by phone Thursday from Singapore that he fled to

his upper-story hotel room, where he found his sister-in-law and other relatives. But at that moment, his wife and 7-year-old daughter, Sabrina, were in a second-floor Internet cafe, trapped by a phone booth lodged in the stairwell. The power went out and electric lines popped all around them.

"Open Water" was released Tuesday on DVD, but Kentis said that was the last thing on his mind "In the wake of all this, it's meaningless to me." he said

### Tribe buying out Trump casino

The Twenty Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians is buying Donald Trump out of its casino in Coachella, Calif.

The tribe has announced an early \$6 million buyout of its partnership with Trump Hotels and Casino Resorts Inc. The initial \$11 million deal two years ago renamed the tribe's Spotlight 29 Casino the Trump 29 Casino. Daily operations were turned over to Trump's company as part of a \$60 million expansion.

The buyout announcement comes after Trump Hotels filed for bankruptcy last month. A bankruptcy judge this month signed off on a \$100 million loan that will keep Trump's casinos in New Jersey and Indiana open while the bankruptcy case is resolved.

The tribe's contract with Trump's Atlantic City, N.J., corporation would have expired in 2007, but included an early buyout option beginning in April 2005

### Johnny Damon, girlfriend get hitched

Red Sox center fielder Johnny Damon, still sporting his trademark long locks, married Michelle Mangan in a

ceremony in Florida last The bride wore an ivory

Vera Wang gown with a chapel-length train and long veil; the groom was dressed in a tux and silver

Johnson, celebrity chef Todd English and Damon's Red Sox teammates Doug Mientkiewicz, Mike Tim-

AC/DC lead singer Brian

Mangan and Damon

lin, Kevin Millar, Bronson Arroyo and Kevin Youkilis were among the 175 guests who attended the ceremony Thursday at Orlando's Ritz Carlton Grande Lakes Hotel.

It was the second marriage for the 31-year-old Damon, whose 5-year-old twins, **Madelyn** and **Jackson**, served as flower girl and ring bearer.

#### Oueen issues New Year's honors

A rocker, an astronaut and the inventor of the automatic teller machine were honored by Queen Elizabeth II in the New Year's honors list. Roger Daltrey of The Who and British-born U.S. astro-

naut Michael Foale were named Commanders of the Order of the British Empire, or CBE, Friday in the annual accolades for achievement in society, husiness culture and snorts

Daltrey, 60, received his CBE for services to music, the entertainment industry and charity.

"I am so pleased. It is really great to be honored by my country," said Daltrey, who also is a patron of the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Foale, who became the first Briton to walk in space in 1995 and completed a six-month stint on the international space station in April, was awarded his CBE for services to space exploration.

John Shepherd-Barron, who installed the world's first automatic cash dispenser at a London bank in 1967, was named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire, or OBE, for services to banking

The honors are bestowed by the queen, but she chooses only a few. Most recipients are selected by committees of civil servants from nominations made by the government and the public.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

ATEN-DOLLAR BILL... A BAG OF HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES... FRESHLY CHARGED IPOD.

### **Horoscope**

Mercury and Pluto join up for a little mischief, and it's the planetary equivalent to someone jumping out and yelling "Boo!" It's startling, not that funny and yet **Holiday Mathis** enlightening when taken to an introspective and philosophical level. What were you really afraid of for that solit second? Perhans some skeletons in your closet are ready to be

#### buried TODAY'S RIRTHDAY (January 4). You crank out

the accomplishments this year. It's like you're a receiv er for positive financial energy. Career moves continue to be fortuitous as long as you're truly happy in your position. March is about asking for and receiving the respect and love you deserve. You could go head over heels for Cancer

ARIES (March 21-April 19), If vou're open to it, a super-interesting chance meeting sparkles up your day. This could come in the form of strangers gazing at one another through a shop window, never exchanging a word but sharing an intense moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When there's a chance to put your talent on the line for all to judge, you have no fear. As long as you're willing to risk rejection, you'll proba-bly come away proud. Echoes of "How about that!" will be heard all up and down the land.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can't help but get engrossed in someone else's weird fortune. Could this preposterous turn of events even happen to someone as savvy as you? Not likely — and there's some thing comforting in that fact.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). In a bizarre twist, the opponent acts more like a friend. You'll wonder if you've been rooting for the right side! Invent terms of endearment to let loved ones know how special they are - new nicknames are bonding.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Circumstances are conducive to getting down on a loved one. But all you

have to do is look at someone else's relationship to get that feeling of "Wow, do I ever have it good." Of course, love by comparison is never a great idea.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

The issue is reciprocity. You know you're not supposed to give in expectation of what you'll receive, but on the other hand, isn't that just plain good business? If a relationship is unbalanced, it's now glaringly ohvious

#### LIBRA (Sept. 23-0ct. 23). The stakes are raised, and it's appropriate to be frightened. But courage doesn't have

to wear a stoic face. In fact, on days like today, courage is a girlish giggle or a sardonic smirk Enough suffering - time to lighten

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In the movies, the biggest stars get the most close ups. The same is

true in your line of work. If you're going to be a superstar performer. expect some scrutiny, especially this afternoon

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Choose your company with the utmost self-esteem. When you mix with a thoughtful crowd, there's the opportunity for philosophizing and solving the world's problems - at least theoretically

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Relationships are eventful, to put it mildly. It's better than being bored! You could run up your cell-phone charges or cut into your sleep time in the process of sorting this one through.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your youthful appeal depends on maintaining young innocence - and sometimes immaturity. Face it: There's merriment in creating trouble! A reasonable Virgo or Taurus can keep you from getting in over vour head.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'd rather not go too deep into the psychology that drives your actions or the actions of those around you. Why ask why when you can simply get over it? Because of this mind-set, you'll be made a leader.

Creators Syndicate

### A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T HAVE PRINCIPLES, BUT I DO! I'M A WIGHLY PRINCIPLED I LIVE ACCORDING TO ONE WHAT'S YOUR PRINCIPLE? Hobbes NEVER LOOK, OUT OF VIATE FOR NUMBER FROM IT













HOUR PARENTS

KEEPING THIS KIND OF PRESSURE ON JUST ENSURES ME FOUR YEARS TUITION

### **Peanuts**















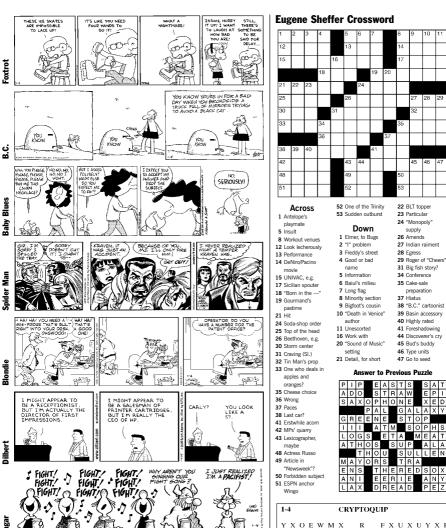












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I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING

### YXOEWMX FXUXUYXF

KTX PWKFRKRJP VEOKM

E OXFKERP OXFXED, R M

KJKED FXOEDD?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I AM NOT TELLING NOTHER SOUL THAT I STUPIDLY ATE SOME ANOTHER SOUL GLUE, MY LIPS ARE SEALED!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

This isn't marble

You're nothing but a cheat

0

# Screen babies' hearing at birth

Dear Abby: A professional nanny in Ohio agonized over whether to tell the mother of twins in her care that one of them might be hearing-impaired. You advised her to notify the mother immediately, and that the children's pediatrician should be told during their next sched-Dear Abby

uled visit. I am a pediatrician with a special interest in deafness and a trustee at the Clarke School for the Deaf in Massachusetts Although I agree with your advice that the nanny should speak to the infant's mother, please let your readers know that there is some urgency involved. Infants should be screened at birth. If deaf infants receive hearing aids and appropriate therapy before 6 months of age, they have a good chance at normal speech and

language development. After 1 year of age, the chances for normal development begin to diminish. If any caregiver suspects hearing loss in an infant

that child's hearing should be tested as soon as possible - Concerned Pediatrician, Northampton, Mass

Dear Concerned: Thank you for your informative letter Read on:

> Dear Abby: I am the mother of two hear ing-impaired children. I have struggled to get our government representatives to understand the value of early detection and push to make it a law for all newborns to be tested

> However, until one of them is faced with disability, I'm sure nothing will be done

Hearing impairment can be detected while the child is still in the womb, and Crib-o-Grams can detect the impairment before the child leaves the hospital. Time is essential to ensure good speech and a

normal life. That nanny should urge the mother to notify the children's pediatrician immediately

- Been There, Done That in Michigan Dear B.T.D.T.: I'm sure that many parents will be interested to know about prenatal testing.

Dear Abby: My son was fitted with his first set of hearing aids at 4 months. He is now 20 and has none of the speech patterns associ-ated with hearing impairment. He had a home-based tutor until he was almost 3 and then was enrolled in a federally funded pre school language program with the local school district. It was a godsend.

Please do that nanny, the parents and the child a huge favor and tell the mother to contact the doctor right away for a brain-stem

- Mom Who Has Been There Dear Mom: I have learned more from my readers than I

could in a classroom Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square to form four ordinary words.



**IMUSSE** 

Answer

LIPOCE

DIDN'T PAY THE SCULPTOR FOR THE BUS Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WHY THE MOGUL

Ans: HE

(Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: TASTY VITAL TWINGE ORCHID Yesterday's LOTS OF "THAWED"

What it takes to make a fast meal -

# Spouse's porn problem private

Dear Annie: During our 12 years of marriage, my husband, "Bart," kept getting into credit-card debt, and I bailed him out three times

His explanations were never good, and Bart was secretive about his whereabouts and his mail. We tried counseling several months ago, but he lied to the therapist. When I called him on it, he quit going. We now live separate lives in separate parts of our home The only time we are together is for public appearances and fami-

ly gatherings. Lately, I have begun to find pornography everywhere in our home. Twice I caught Bart at home in the middle of the day. watching X-rated videos. I am sure now that this is what he has been up to all along.

I filed for divorce two months ago, and Bart's grown children are shocked and want to know what happened. I keep telling them they need to talk to their

Annie's Mailbox them he has "no idea." Bart is a good person

with a huge problem. What can I tell his children and friends? — Caring in Kansas

Dear Caring: You don't need to tell them anything - the details are not their business, especially since Bart is unwilling to admit he has a problem. Simply

say you are not comfortable discussing it. There is a support group for family and friends of sex addicts which you might find useful: S-Anon International Family Groups (sanon.org), P.O. Box 111242, Nashville, TN 37222-1242. For more information on sexual addiction, try the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists (aasect.org), P.O. Box 5488, Richmond, VA 23220-0488

Dear Annie: I am a 24-year-old male, and my brother is 26

Recently, my family received invitations to my cousin's Bat Mitzvah party. My brother was invited along with his girlfriend, whom he has been dating on and

off for a year. I am not currently in a relationship. Is it appropriate that my brother can bring a guest and I cannot? I fear I will have no one to dance with except my mother.

— Solo at the Simcha

Dear Solo: Since your brother is in a long-term relationship, it is appropriate to invite his girlfriend. Most families cannot afford to allow their single guests to bring friends along. Although it usually is rude to ask if you can bring a date, since you are a close relative, and you are not likely to meet eligible single women at the affair, we think it's OK in this instance. If your aunt and uncle say "no," we hope Mom is a good dancer.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Annie's Mailbox is written by Katry Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, Jongtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox. (20 Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

### **Family Circus**



"If these good dishes were made in England, why are they called 'China'?"

# GRAFFITI GOODTHING M8x









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•	, ctom	
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Matauaualaa	164
Smart Car '03 Pr am, fm, od, a/c, 3 obo, call 0622 0179-725299	
Nissan Maxima German Specs, 4 roof, radials, \$2, 0611-927-9857	dr. CD. Sun-
00387-61181480	y been driven stereo, \$21k ELizabeth
Mercedes C180 blue, 5-Sp., ac, n summer tires with \$15k obo, call 053	ew winter and rims, 66k km.
\$16,000 obo, call	

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Tuesday AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA: Seattle at Miam AFN-Sports, 1 and 7 p.m.-College footba ugar Bowl, Auburn vs. Virginia Tech (dld)

### Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.-NBA: Milwaukee at Indiana. AFN-Atlantic, Pacific and Radio, 2 a.m.-Col-lege football: Orange Bowl, Oklahoma vs. Southern Cal.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA: Teams TBD (dld).

AFN-Sports, 1 and 7 p.m.-College football:
Orange Bowl, Oklahoma vs. Southern Cal
(both dld).

### Thursday

AFN-Sports, 1 am.-College basketball: Prin-ceton at Duke.
AFN-Radio, 1 am.-College basketball: Bos-ton College at Connecticut.
AFN-Atlantic, 1390 am.-NT: Super Bowl XXXVIII Highlights (Idid).
AFN-Atlantic, 2 am.-College basketball: Notre Dame at Seton Hall.
AFN-Sports, 3 am.-NBat: Phoenix at Hous-

ton.

AFN-Atlantic, 4 a.m.-College basketball: Al-abama at Vanderbilt. All Times Central European Time; dld indi-cates delayed broadcast. All listings are sub-ject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

# College football

### Bowl glance

Tuesday, Dec. 14 New Orleans Bow Payout: \$750,000 ) th Texas 10

Independence Bow At Shreveport, La. Payout: \$1.2 million

Integendence sown
Integendence
Integend

Payout: \$750,000
Navy 34, New Mexico 19
Moliday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$2 million
Texas Tech As, California 31
Sit San Jose, Calif.
A San Jose, Calif.
A Fayout: \$750,000
Northern Illinois 34, Troy 21
Music Ctyl Bowl
Payout; \$750,000

Austractive Sover Manager Conference of the Conf

Payout: \$3 millio inessee 38, Texas A&M 7 Outback Bowl At Tampa, Fla. Payout: \$2.75 milli rgia 24, Wisconsin 21

Gator Bowl

At Jacksonville, Fla

At Jacksonville, Fla. Payout: \$1.6 million Florida State 30, West Virginia 18 Capital One Bowl At Orlando, Fla. Payout: \$5.187 million

lowa 30, LSU 25
AP Pasadena, Calif.
AP Pasadena, Calif.
Texas 38, Michigan 37, Michigan 38, Michigan 31, Mich

Payout: \$11-14 million
Southern Cal (12-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-0)

### College basketball

### AP Men's Top 25 fared

Sunday Illinois (14-0) did not play. Next: vs. Ohio e, Wednesday. Kansas (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. is A&M. Wednesday.

2. Kansas (6-0) did not play, Nect tr. A. (1994). A second of the control of the

11.0 Pritisturiji (11-1) lost to to suchenii (18-96, 11-1) lost to suchenii (18-96, 11-1) lost to suchenii (18-96, 11-1) connectici (15-1) dini pri pily, Nett. stai suchenii (18-1) dini pri pily, Nett. stai suchenii (18-1) lost (18-1)

### Sunday's men's scores

Sunday's men's scores

Let

American L. 6, Delaware J.

Bernoth College C, Massachusetts 48

Boston C, Massachusetts 48

Boston C, Massachusetts 48

Boston C, Massachusetts 49

Boston C, Massach

Florida St. 32. Florida 6 entervaluo ol Louisyille 98, Frannessee St. 64 Miami 76, Norfolk St. 58 Miami 76, Norfolk St. 58 Middle Tennessee 59, Va. Commonwe, North Carolina 105, William 2. Mary 65 C.-Upstate 73, Wingate 99 Tennessee 83, Coastal Carolina 51 Upsta 105, Murray St. 80 Valdosta St. 60, Campata 143 vette 44 Wake Forest 89, Vironia 70 Wake Forest 89, Vironia 70 Wake Forest 89, Virginia 70 West Virginia 82, N.C. State 69 Winthron 90, Ferrum 62

Avon 71, Ohio op MIDWEST

Avon 71, Ohio op MIDWEST

Booking Green 95, Ed 5

Booking Green 97

Booking

Portland br, Iudino .... UCLA 70, Oregon 62 Washington 76, Stanford 73 TOURNAMENT Holiday Inn Naismith C First Round Springfield 89, Emmanuel 66 St. John Fisher 68, Rutgers-Newark 50

### Women's AP Top 25 fared

Sunday
1. LSU (13-0) beat Tulane 79-45. Next: at No 

7, hord Carglina (13-1) dei not play, Nection 5, 10-10 (13-1) and 100 portion of section 1, 10-10 (13-1) and 100 portion of section 1, 10-10 (13-1) (13-10 (13-1) (

18. lowa (13-0) beat Illinois /L-Do. MEAL VA Penn State, Thursday, 19. DePaul (10-2) beat Holy Cross 92-49. Next at Marquette, Sunday, 20. Purdue (8-4) lost to No. 9 Ohio State 63-50. Next vs. Indiana, Thursday, 21. Arizona State (9-3) did not play. Next

22. Kansas State (9-2) beat Central Con ecticut State 77-23. Next: at Iowa State Wednesday.

23. UCLA (8-3) beat Oregon State 73-45.
Next vs. Oregon, Tuesday.

24. Rutgers (8-2) beat No. 4 Texas 51-47.
Next vs. No. 1 LSU, Wednesday.

25. New Mexico (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Morgan State, Tuesday.

### Sunday's women's scores

FAST Buffalo 50, East Carolina 48 Connecticut 60, St. John's 32 Fairfield 75, Yale 68 Fairmont St. 77, Saint Paul's Palmetin C. T. T. Son Maris 44 Marist 55, Cornel at Paul's 44 Marist 55, Cornel at Paul's 44 Marist 55, Cornel at Paul's 47 N. Dakota 51, 72, Bentley 64 Pitchungh 63, 57, 87 across 57 ac nt Daul'e 44

riorida 58, South Florida 50 Furman 52, UNC-Greensboro 50 Georgia 68, Tenn-Martin 52 High Point 63, Appalachian 5t. 61 Jacksonville 5t. 71, Auburn 66 Kentucky 85, 5t. Francis, Pa. 73 LSU 79, Tulane 45 Emory 67, Dallas 43 Florida 58, South Florida 50 

MIDWES Arkansas 66, Cincinnati 54 Arkansas 66, Cincinnati 54, Creighton 91, Evansville 75 DePuls 90, 1949,

Minnesder B., Mi

\*\*EAS TECH 66, My ANT 75, Steph, F.Austin 62
\*\*FAR WEST
Colorado 73, Mr. My WEST
Colorado 74, Mr. N. Colorado 52, Mr. Colorad V 92, Canisius 66 shington 65, California 52 ser St. 70, Portland 50 TOURNAMENTS Beach Ball Classic

Beach Ball Classic First Round Westminster, Mo. 61. Villa Julie 53 Holiday Inn-Naismith Classic First Round Marymount, Va. 67, Rhode Island Coll. 46 Springfield 64, Plattsburgh 47

# Hockey

### World Junior Championship

Quarterfinals
Czech Republic 3, Finland 0
United States 8, Sweden 2
Sunday, Jan. 2
At Grand Porks, N.D.
Relegation
Slovakia 2, Belarus
Semifinals

Slovakia Z, bessenting.

Canada 3, Czech Republic 1
Russia 7, United States 2
Monday, Jan. 3
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Relegation

elarus vs. Germany witzerland vs. Slovakia Fifth Place

Finland vs. Sv . Sweden
Tuesday, Jan. 4
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Third Place
oublic vs. United States

... Republic vs. Chan Canada vs. Ruer!

### **Tennis**

### **WTA Gold Coast**

Monday
At Royal Pines Resort
Gold Coast, Australia
Purses \$170,000 (Tier III)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Tatlana Golovin, France, del. Yan Zi, China,
6-1, 6-4.

lagana Golovin, France, det. Yan Ji, Chinia, Samantha Sizosr, Australia, Gel. Karolina Sprem (Grouta, Gel. Gel. Anca Barna, Germany, G.; Gel. Anca Barna, Germany, G.; Gel. Karatantcheva, Bulgaria, def. Maria Klara Koulcadov, Crech Republic, def. Jas-lyn Hewitt, Australia, Gel. 1-16, Ge. 2-19 (Grout Gel. Anca Berna, Gel. Maria Klara Koulcadov, Crech Republic, def. Jas-lyn Hewitt, Australia, Gel. 1-16, Ge. 2-19 (Grouta), Gel. Maria Klara Koulcadov, Crech Republic, def. Jas-lyn Hewitt, Australia, Gel. And. def. Virglies Bazzan, Grance, Gel. 2-6, Honglie Bazzan, Grance, Gel. 2-6, Honglie Bazzan, Grance, Gel. 2-6, Gel. 2-6,

IT ACTUALLY ONLY

First Round

Stephanie Cohen-Aloro, France, and Selima Sfar, Tunisla, def, Yuliana Fedak, Ukraing, and Julia Schruff, Germany, 6-3, 6-2, ana Golovin, France, and Dinara Safina, Russia, 6-4, 7-6 (3).

Maria Flora Control ana Golovin, Francé, and Dinara Safina, Rus-sia, 6-4, 7-6 (3). Maria Elena Camerin and Silvia Farina Elia, Italy, def. Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic, and Antonella Serra Zanetti, Italy, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (3).

### ATP Next Generation Hardcourts

# Monday At Memorial Drive Adelaide, Australia Purse: \$419,000 (Intl. Ser Surface: Hard-Outdor Singles

Surface Hard-Outdoor Singles First Boule Cyrl Saulnier, Frat Boule, Paul Baccane-lo, Australla, 6-7 6 (1). Thomas Engvist, Sweden, def. Raemon Slu-tion and Surface State Company of the Company Jurgen Metzer (6), Austria, der Chomas Ber-dych, Czech Republic, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 Olivier Rocchis, Belgium, def. Antony Du-Borlan Mayer (7), Germany, def. Wayne Arthurs, Australia, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 Nicolas Kiefer (3), Germany, def. Sign Schalken, Nether Doubles

Doubles
First Round
Australia, and Jim Thomas, Jordan Kerr, Australia, and Jim Thomas, United States, def. Lieyton Hewitt and Roger Rasheed, Austra-lia, 7-6 (3), 6-7 (5), 6-2. Gaston Etils and Martin Rodriguez (1), Ar-gentina, def. Joschim Johansson, Sweden, 6-1, Todd Woodbridge, Australia, 1-5, 7-6 (5), 6-7.

6-4. Simon Aspelin, Sweden, and Todd Perry (4), Australia, def. Chris Haggard and Robbie Koenig. South Africa, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (2).

### WTA ASB Classic

# Monday At ASB Bank Tennis Centre Auckland, New Zealand Purse: \$140,000 (Tier IV) Surface: Hard-Outdor Singles First Round Amy Frazier (1), United States, def. Laura \$7anville\_United States, def. Laura

Amy Fraider (1, 14% Royal Royal Amy Fraider (1, 14% Royal Ro

# Hopman Cup

Hopman Cup

All Monday
Amenday

JSSIA, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1. Groenefeld and Haas def. Myskina and Ifin 7-5, 1-6, 10-6 (tiebreak).

### Oatar Open

DOHA, Qatar — Results from Monday matches at the \$1 million (seedings in paren-theses):

First Round Singles er (1), Switzerland, def. David

Roger Federer (1), Switzerland, def. David Ferrer, Spain, 6-1, 6-1. Ferrer, Spain, def. Flippp Ovlandri, Haly, 7-5, 6-2. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 7-1. France, 4-6, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Ferrer, 6-4, 6-7, 8-7. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, 6-3, 7-5. Britain, def. Jan Hernych, Cerch Republic, def. Ja

### Deals

### Weekend transactions

BASKETBALL Rasketball As

National Susceptible Management of the Managemen

### TANK McNamara

BOWL PAYOUTS ARE DIVIDED EQUALLY AMONG ALL BIG-BIZ CONFERENCE MEMBERS. BUT THE CONFERENCE DOES GIVE ITS BOWL TEAMS EXPENSE ACCOUNTS. 13 Ş

BEFORE EVERY HOME GAME, WE ALWAYS ATE THE TEAM BREAKFAST AT THE SAME IHOP AND WE WON EVERY HOME GAME.



*∞*055

SO THIS

# **Shocker!**

### **Bucknell saunters into Pittsburgh** and upsets 10th-ranked Panthers

PITTSBURGH - Bucknell

opened a lot of eyes earlier in the week with a road victory against Saint Joseph's. The Bison left a lot of people with open mouths with their next act.

How about a 69-66 victory at

No. 10 Pittsburgh on Sunday night? The Bison were facing the high-

est-ranked opponent in their histo-ry and beat the Panthers for the first time since Jan. 11, 1975, when Bucknell's coach was a young man named Jim Valvano.

"I don't know where to put it Bison coach Pat Flannery said when asked to rank the victory in school history. "You don't play these games on your schedule without thinking you can come in and beat them. I felt like we could come in and play with them. I'll put it in perspective when I calm

"Our guys were well aware of how good they were coming in," Pitt coach Jaime Dixon said. "It was one of those nights as far as how we played. But our defense is not where it needs to be."

Kevin Bettencourt made two free throws with 23 seconds remaining to give the Bison the lead

Chris McNaughton scored 17 points, Charles Lee had 14, including the last two free throws with 2.3 seconds left, and Bettencourt added 13 for Bucknell (9-4), which has won six straight.

"It's a lot of fun to play a game like that," McNaughton said. "To end up winning, it's just tremendous for us. The way we played as a team made the difference

Carl Krauser had 20 points for Pitt (10-1), which saw the end of a

48-game home winning streak against non-conference teams.

"We were ready for the game but when we got here, it was a different story," Krauser said.
"They came out blazing and we didn't step up to the challenge as well as we should have. Everyone hates to lose a game like this. It's

an eye-opener."

Chris Taft had 19 points for Pitt, which trailed by nine points at halftime. Freshman Ronald Ramon sparked a second-half comeback for Pitt, hitting consecutive three-pointers to complete a 14-1 run and give the Panthers a

Bucknell rebuilt a four-point lead with 3:50 left, but Antonio Graves and Krauser hit three-pointers to give Pitt a 64-62 lead with 2 minutes left.

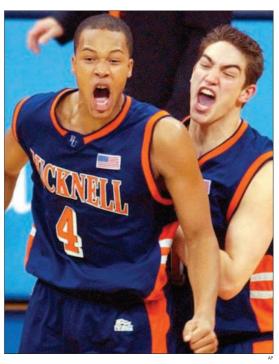
Bettencourt converted three-point play with 1:37 left to put Bucknell ahead 65-64. Kraus-er answered with a basket on Pitt's next possession, and could have made it a three-point lead as he cruised in for a layup with 58 seconds left. shot. however

blocked from behind by Abe Badmus and Graves was then called for a foul away from the ball with 23 seconds remaining. Betten-court's free throws gave Bucknell a 67-66 lead.

a 6/-66 lead.

On Pitt's next possession,
Krauser slipped while trying to
drive the lane and was called for
traveling. Pitt got the ball back with 13 seconds left when Bucknell turned it over on the inbounds pass.

Graves missed a 15-footer with 5 seconds left and Lee, fouled on the rebound, made two free throws. Krauser's desperation shot at the buzzer bounced off the



Donald Brown (4) and Darren Mastropaolo celebrate Bucknell's 69-66 upset of No. 10 Pittsburgh on Sunday, the Panthers' first loss in 11 games. Bucknell, a member of the Patriot League, improved to 9-4.

# Memories of Jerry as W. Virginia smacks N.C. State

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. - After consecutive victories over ranked opponents. West Virginia hardly seems like just a football school these

Johannes Herber and Mike Gansey each scored 15 points Sunday to lift West Virginia past No 17 North Carolina State 82-69, giving the Mountaineers their best record since the fabled Jerry West played in Morgantown.

Patrick Beilein and Tyrone Sally each scored 11 points in a balanced effort by the Mountaineers, who improved to 10-0 for the first time since the 1960 season, when West guided the Mountaineers into the NCAA championship

Six players scored in double fig-ures and West Virginia shot 59

Coach John Beilein said he'd rather his team remain under the national radar, but he might not have a choice. The Mountaineers defeated No. 20 George Washington 71-65 last week, then followed that by beating a team that had won 48 of 52 nonconference



games at home. That could add up to West Virginia's first appear-ance in the top 25 since March 1998, the last year the Mountaineers reached the NCAA tourna-

"A ranking would be nice," Gansey said. "But at the same time, it doesn't really matter, I guess."

Freshman Andrew Brackman scored 19 points in his first start for the Wolfpack (10-3), who played without leading scorer Julius Hodge. Last year's Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year was sidelined after spraining his right ankle in last week's 63-45 drubbing at St. John's.

The Mountaineers led 43-36 at halftime, then hit 10 of their first 15 shots after the break to build a 14-point lead with about 71/2 minutes left.
"Right now our team just seems

real dull, real boring, and that's not our style," said Cameron Ben-nerman, who missed seven of

nine shots and scored only five points, "We don't have dull and boring players on this team. Defensively our intensity just wasn't there

No. 4 North Carolina 105, William & Mary 66: At Chapel Hill, N.C., Sean May scored 24 points N.C., Sean May scored 24 points on 9-for-13 shooting for the Tar Heels (12-1), who have won 12 in a row since losing to Santa Clara in the season opener. North Carolina scored more than 100 points for the second straight game, the first time that's happened in 10

Corev Cofield and Nate Loehrke each had 16 points for the Tribe (4-6)

No. 5 Wake Forest 89, No. 25 Virginia 70: At Charlottesville, Va., Chris Paul had 21 points and nine assists and Justin Gray had six points in a 13-0 run early in the second half for the Demon Deacons (12-1), who won their seventh straight in the Atlantic Coast Conference opener. The outcome snapped a string of eight straight victories in the series by

the home team. Freshman Adrian Joseph, start-

ing in place of injured leading scorer Devin Smith, had 19 points for the Cavaliers (8-2), who have lost 10 straight conference open-No. 6 Duke 62, Clemson 54: At Durham, N.C., J.J. Redick had

20 of his 24 points in the second half and role player Lee Melchionni made two clutch three-pointers as the Blue Devils (9-0) rallied in their ACC opener. Shelden Williams had 13 points

and 16 rebounds for Duke, which won its 18th straight over the Ti-Sharrod Ford led Clemson (9-4) with 20 points.

No. 13 Washington 76. Stanford 73: At Seattle, Mike Jensen and Tre Simmons each had 17 points in the eighth straight victory for the Huskies (12-1, 2-0). Jensen, who was 6-for-9 from the field, made two free throws with 12 seconds to play to provide the final margin.

Hernandez and Dan Grunfeld each had 15 points for Stanford (6-6). The two-time defending Pac-10 Conference champion dropped to 0-2 in league play for the first time since 1991. 79: At Tucson, Channing Frye had a season-high 21 points and Mustafa Shakur added 20, including a season-high four three-pointers, for the Wildcats (11-2), who won their eighth straight.

Ike Diogu had 23 points, 11 rebounds and five blocks for the Sun Devils (11-2), who had a nine-game winning streak snapped in the Pac-10 opener.

No. 15 Texas 89, UNLV 82: At Austin, Texas, P.J. Tucker had 25 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Longhorns (10-2), who took control with a late 12-1 run.

Romel Beck and Jerel Blassiname each had 17 points for the Runnin' Rebels (6-5). They com-Runnin' Rebels (6-3). They com-bined for nine points — all on three-pointers — in a 10-0 run that gave the Runnin' Rebels a 50-48 lead with 13:30 to play.

No. 19 Louisville 98, Tennes-see St. 64: At Louisville. Francisco Garcia matched his career-high with 29 points, includ-ing eight straight during a 27-4 run, to lead the Cardinals (11-2). Bruce Price had 24 points for

the Tigers (5-9)

#### NBA scoreboard

### Fastern Conference

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	16	14	.533	-	
Philadelphia	13	16	.448	23	
Boston	13	17	.433	3	
New Jersey	11	18	379	41)	
Toronto	10	21	323	61	
Southeast I	divis	ion			
Miami	25	7	.781	_	
Washington	16	13	.552	73	
Orlando	15	13	.536	8	
Charlotte	7	20	.259	159	
Atlanta	- 5	24	.172	189	
Central Di	visio	n			
Cleveland	17	12	.586	-	
Detroit	16	13	.552	1	
Indiana	15	13	.536	15	
Chicago	10	17	.370	6	
Milwaukee	9	18	.333	7	
Wastern Conference					

Western Conference							
Southwest Division							
	w	1.	Pct	GB			
San Antonio	25	7	.781				
Dallas	20	10	.667	4			
Houston	16	15	.516	81/2			
Memphis	15	17	469	10			
New Orleans		26	.071	21			
Northwest	Divis	ion	.011				
Seattle	22	6	.786	_			
Minnesota	16		.571	6			
Portland		15		81/2			
Denver		16		9			
Utah			.355	121/2			
Pacific Di	visio	n	.555	11.71			
Phoenix	26	4	.867	_			
Sacramento	19		.679	6			
L.A. Lakers	16	12	.571	ğ			
L.A. Clippers	14	15	483	111/2			
Golden State		19	367	15			
Sunday's	gam	105					
Washington 104, Atlan							
L.A. Clippers 89, Philag			3				
Detroit 100, Boston 88			-				
Phoeniy 117 Portland	QR.						

Phoenix 117, Portland 98
Houston 99, Utah 80
Dallas 123, Milwaukee 104
Sacramento 86, San Antonio 81
L.A. Lakers 99, Denver 91
Monday's games
Orlando at Toronto
New Orleans at Boston
Cleveland at Charlotte

New January Charlotter Seattle Milami Utah at Memphis Detroit at Chicago La. Clippers at Denver Philadelphia at Golden State Tuesday's game: Milwaukee at Indiana New Jersey at Washington Phoenix at Minnesota La. Lakers at San Antonio La. Lakers at San Antonio

Wednesday's games Atlanta at Cleveland Golden State at Boston Sacramento at Toronto Seattle at Orlando Minnesota at Charlotte New York at Miami New Jersey at Milwaukee Chicago at New Orleans L.A. Lakers at Dallas iv at H

#### Sunday Wizards 104, Hawks 101 ATLANTA - A Walker 7-14 1-2 18 Jos Smi

26 0-0 4, Collier 1-4 0-0 2, Harrington 6-14 2-2 14, Lue 5-11 6-7 16, Delk 6-16 6-7 19, Willis 2-3 1-25, Childress 3-7 2-28, Ivey 0-2 0-0 0, Drobn-lak 6-9 3-3 15, Anderson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 

26 20 25 30-101 26 24 22 32-104

Washington
Three-Point Goals—Atlanta 4-13 (A.Walker
2-5, Delk 1-6, Harrington 0-1, Lue 0-1), Washngton 6-17 (Okon 5-4, Hughes 1-3), Jamison
John 1-7 (Okon 5-4, Hughes 1-3), Jamison
out-Delk, Rebounds—Atlanta 57 (A.Walker
13), Washington 55 (Jamison 12), Assists—Atlanta 20 (Lue 6), Washington 20 (Hayes 5),
Total fouls—Atlanta 23, Washington 22, Techricals—Washington Detensive Three Second, Arenas, A-14,114 (20,674).

### Pistons 100. Celtics 88 BOSTON — Welsch 4-7 3-4 14, LaFrentz 3-10 2-2 9, Blount 2-5 2-2 6, Pierce 4-11 5-7 13, Pay-ton 3-10 0-0 6, Davis 4-10 0-0 8, Jefferson 4-6

8-11 1-2 18. Gugliotta	0-1 0-0 0, Per	rkins 0-0
0. Totals 34-78 14-18 8	38.	
DETROIT - Prince	6-8 4-8 18	, R.Wall
8-17 6-8 23, B.Wallace		
1-1 13, Billups 4-12 2-2		
Dupree 5-8 1-2 11, Hui	nter 1-4 0-0 2	, Parker
0-0 0, Milicic 0-1 0-0 0		
Boston		22 27-
Detroit	30 23	32 15-

Defroit Goals—Bosto F. 22 27—89 Three-Point Goals—Bosto F. 21 191600 1-3. Banks 1-1. Allen 1-1. Lafrentz 1-2. Pierce 6-1, McCarty 0-2, Davis 0-2.) Defroit 5-19 Control 1-19 C

Suns 117, Trail Blazers 98

PORTLAND — Miles 10-22 - 5-8 25. Abdur-Rahlm 6-11 2-5 14, Randolph 10-17 2-2 22, Van 16-13 6-1.2 8, Anderson 4-9 0-9 Przybilla 1-3 0-0 2, Patterson 4-5 0-1 8, Stoudamire 4-9 0-0 9, Telfair 1-5 0-0 2, T. Out-law 0-0 0-0 0, Frahm 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 43-87 10-18 98.

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### **Clippers 89, 76ers 83**

PHILADELPHIA — Iguodala 1-6 0-0 2, Thomas 3-10 8-9 14, Dalembert 0-1 1-2 1, Green 0-3 0-0 0, Iverson 16-30 3-5 3, Jackson 2-9 2-4 6, Williamson 1-6 2-4 4, Korver 4-12 0-0 12, Salmons 3-7 0-0 7, Oille 0-0 0-2 0, Skinner 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 31-87 16-26 83.

0-0.2 Totals 31.87 I6-26 83.

LA. CLIPPESS — Simmons 3-11.4-6. 10, Brand 9-16 8-8 26, Kaman 5-8 3-3 13, Magnette 8-149-12 26, Brunson 3-7 2-2 10, Chalmers 0-10-2 0, Rebraca 0-0-2-2 2, Wilcox 0-0-0-0, Ross 0-4-2-2 2. Totals 28-61 30-37 89.
Philadelphia 21 12 20 30-83

LA. Clippers 

#### Rockets 99, Jazz 80

### Mavericks 123, Bucks 104

MILWAUKEE — Smith 2-10 2-2 6, Mason -13 2-3 12, Gadzuric 5-7 2-6 12, Redd 8-18 0-0 8, M.Williams 4-7 4-4 13, James 9-13 0-0 20, 2 achulia 4-9 3-6 11, Gill 1-4 3-4 5, Fizer 3-6 1-2 1 Totals 41-87 17-27 104. 7. 10tals 41-87 17-27 104.

DALLAS — Howard 10-16 4-5 25, Nowitzki
14-25 7-9 39, Dampier 7-8 1-3 15, Finley 2-9 1-1
5, Terry 3-9 1-1 9, Stackhouse 6-15 6-16, Harris 1-2 2-3 4, Henderson 3-4 0-0 6, Bradley 1-1
0-2, Booth 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 47-89 2-2-28 123.

Milwaukee 19 31 10 24-104

5-0.2, Booth 6-0.0-0. Totals 47-89-22-28 12.3. Milwaukee 19.13 30 24—104 Milwaukee 19.13 30 24—104 Milwaukee 19.13 30 24—104 Milwaukee 19.13 24—105 (14.13 2

#### Kings 86, Spurs 81

SAN ANTONIO — Bowen 1-8 0-1 2, Duncan 5-17 2-6 14, Nesterovic 3-7 0-0 6, Ginobili 7-16 4-18, Parker 3-9 1-2 7, Horry 5-10 0-1 12, Brown 3-7 0-0 6, Udrih 2-7 0-0 4, Barry 1-2 3-4 6, Rose 3-5 0-1 6, Massenburg 0-0 0-0 1tals 34-88 9-18 81.

SACRAMENTO — Stojakovic 10-20 2-2 28, Webber 6-15 2-2 14, Miller 4-9 3-6 11, Christie 1-4 0-0 2, Bibby 7-15 1-1 16, Ostertag 1-1 0-0 2, Evans 0-1 0-0 0, Songaila 2-6 0-0 4, Martin 3-6 3-9 . Totals 34-77 11-14 86.

Son Autonio San Au

### Lakers 99, Nuggets 91

21 21 21 28-91 24 20 35 20-99

# **Suns' Stoudemire nets 50**

Amare Stoudemire had 30 points after three quarters against Portland, and scoring 50 still was far from his mind It wasn't until he heard a voice

from the crowd that the young Phoenix phenom realized he had a chance to reach that milestone.

'I heard one of the fans say 46, and that's when I thought about it." he said. "But I wasn't pressing and trying to get 50 points. It just

NBA

the flow of the Stoudemire finished right at 50, leading Phoenix to a

came to me in

game.

117-98 victory over the Trail Blazers on Sunday night. The crowd of 18.166 was cheer-

ing wildly in the final minutes as Stoudemire approached the mark, and the fans got their wish with 43.2 seconds left when he made a 15-foot turnaround jump shot

Stoudemire who scored on a variety of dunks, jumpers and power moves, was so dominant that he reminded teammate Quentin Richardson of one of the NBA's greatest players.

"Amare Stoudemire looked like Wilt Chamberlain." Richardson said Stoudemire shot 20-for-27 from

the floor and 10-for-17 from the foul line. Richardson added 20 for Phoenix. Darius Miles led Portland with 25 points and Zach Randolph had

22 points and 14 rebounds. Lakers 99, Nuggets 91: At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored the Lakers' first 14 points in the fourth quarter and finished with

Former Lakers star Michael Cooper lost for the first time as an NBA coach. He was promoted to coach in Denver last Tuesday after the firing of Jeff Bzdelik and won in his debut Friday against Philadelphia.

42

Bryant had his third straight 40-point game and the Lakers won consecutive games for the sixth time this season.

Carmelo Anthony led Denver with 27 points in his second game back since missing six with a sprained ankle. Kenyon Martin returned to the Denver lineup after missing Friday's game with a sore back and finished with 11 points in 28 minutes.

Kings 86. Spurs 81: At Sacramento, Calif., Peja Stojakovic had including points,



Suns forward Amare Stoudemire slam dunks during the second half against the Trail Blazers. Stoudemire scored a career-high 50 points.

three-pointers, and Mike Bibby scored 13 of his 16 points in the second half for the Kings. Chris Webber added 14 points

and 13 rebounds for Sacramento, which snapped the Spurs five-game winning streak. The Kings also avoided their first three-game home losing streak since April 2000.

Manu Ginobili scored 18 points for San Antonio, but Tim Duncan got just six of his 14 points in the second half as the Spurs lost in Sacramento for just the second time in five trips.

Mavericks 123. Bucks 104: At Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 39 points and Josh Howard got 11 of his 25 in the fourth quarter to help the Mavericks pull away.

Nowitzki hit 14 of 25 shots from the floor in his 11th 30-point game of the season. Dallas shot 53 percent from the floor and equaled its highest scoring output of the season.

Howard held Milwaukee's Michael Redd to 18 points, nearly five below his average. Mike James led the Bucks with 20 points.

Pistons 100. Celtics 88: At Auburn Hills, Mich., Rasheed Wallace had 23 points and 12 rebounds to lead Detroit to its fourth victory in fives games. Six Pistons scored in double fig. ures, including Tayshaun Prince.

who had 18 points. Rookie Tony Allen had a sea-son-high 18 points. Jiri Welsch

added 14 points and Paul Pierce

13 for the Celtics, who have won just one of their last five games.

Rockets 99, Jazz 80: At Hous ton, Tracy McGrady scored 25 points to lead the Rockets to their third straight victory. Bob Sura tied season highs with 24 points. 10 rebounds and five steals for Houston, which won for the 10th time in 14 games

Gordon Giricek had 15 points to lead the Jazz, who lost their fifth straight

Wizards 104, Hawks 101: At Washington, reserve guard Juan Dixon scored all 15 of his points in the fourth quarter to help Wash-

ington beat the lowly Hawks. Larry Hughes led the Wizards with 26 points. Antawn Jamison added 19 and Gilbert Arenas 17.

Antoine Walker, who finished with 18 points, hit a three-pointer to pull the Hawks to 102-101 with 3.1 seconds left. Jamison's two free throws with 2.2 seconds remaining sealed it.

The Hawks (5-24) have lost four straight and have the worst record in the Eastern Confer-

Clippers 89. 76ers 83: At Los Angeles, Elton Brand had 26 points and 12 rebounds for the Clippers and Corey Maggette added 26 points.

Allen Iverson scored 35 points while playing at least 40 minutes for the 10th straight game. He shot 16-for-30, while the 76ers' other starters were a combined 4-for-20 from the field.

### Deal to sell Cavs complete; team won't move

The Associated Press CLEVELAND — The founder

of the nation's largest online mortgage company agreed to buy the Cleveland Cavaliers from owner Gordon Gund, acquiring a team that has surged from the NBA's depths since the arrival of LeB-

Dan Gilbert of Detroit, founder of Quicken Loans, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press on Monday that he will assume ownership of the Cavaliers and 20.000-seat Gund Arena once the league's board of governors approves the deal. Although financial terms were

not immediately known, Gilbert heads an ownership group that reportedly offered Gund \$375 million.

Gund plans to keep a minority stake, but Gilbert will be responsi ble for the club's day-to-day operations Gilbert said he has no plans to

relocate the Cavaliers, a possibility that had made Cleveland fans nervous when they heard Gund was selling the team.

Cleveland Cavaliers," Gilbert said. "They will be staying put in downtown Cleveland — right where they belong. A professional sports team has the responsibility to serve the community in which it resides. We will be committed to the fans of Cleveland sports to be as passionate and en-

"We will not be moving the

ergized as they are about finally Gund released a statement confirming his agreement with Gilhert and his intent to remain a minority shareholder.

bringing a title home."

#### NFL scoreboard

American Conference								
	East							
	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA		
x-New England		2	0	.875	437			
z-N.Y. Jets	10	6	0	.625				
Buffalo			0					
Miami	4.1	12	0	.250	2/5	354		
	South							
x-Indianapolis	12	4	0	.750				
Jacksonville	9	4	0					
Houston	1.							
Tennessee	North	ш	0	.313	344	439		
Distalance				.938	272	251		
xy-Pittsburgh Baltimore	15	1	0					
Cincinnati	8	8	Ö	.500				
Cleveland	4.1	12	0	.250	2/6	390		
	West		_					
x-San Diego	12	4	0	.750				
z-Denver	10	9	0		381	304		
Kansas City Oakland	7.	11			483	435		
Udkidnu	5 1	11	0	.313	320	442		

### **National Conference**

	w	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA
xv-Philadelphia	13	3	0	.813	386	260
N.Y. Giants	6	10	0	.375	303	347
Dallas	6	10	0	.375	293	405
Washington		10		.375		
**usimington	outh		۰	-515	240	200
x-Atlanta			n	.688	340	337
New Orleans	- 8	š	ň	.500	348	405
Carolina	7	9	ň	.438	355	330
Tampa Bay	ś	1Ĭ	ŏ	.313	301	30.4
rumpu buy	orth		۰		301	304
x-Green Bay			n	.625	424	380
z-Minnesota		š	ň	.500	405	305
Detroit				.375		
Chicago	2	10	Ü	313	230	330
Cnicago	West	11	U	-313	231	331
	west	-		.563	271	272
x-Seattle z-St. Louis	9	6	Ü	.500	3/1	3/3
Arizona	2	.0	Ü	.375	319	392
San Francisco		10	U	-3/5	284	322
	- 2,	14	ο.	.125	,259	452
x-clinched division;	y-cı	inc	nea	con	tere	nce;
z-clinched wild card						
Sunda		am	es			
Tennessee 24, Detro	it 19					
Baltimore 30, Miami						
Green Bay 31, Chicag	go 14	ı				
St. Louis 32, N.Y. Jets						
Cleveland 22, Housto	on 14	ı				
Washington 21, Mini	neso	ta I	8			
Pittsburgh 29, Buffal	lo 24					
New Orleans 21, Car	olina	18				
New England 21, Sar	Fra	nci	sco	7		
Cincinnati 38, Philad	lelnh	la 1	0			
Seattle 28, Atlanta 2			-			
Arizona 12 Tamna B	tau 7					

### Seattle 28, Atlanta 26 Arizona 12, Tampa Bay 7 San Diego 24, Kansas City Denver 33, Indianapolis 1 Jacksonville 13, Oakland I N.Y. Giants 28, Dallas 24 Wild-card playoffs

Sature St. Louis at Seattle
N.Y. Jets at San Diego
Sunday, Jan. 9 Saturday, Jan. 8 Denver at Indianapolis Minnesota at Green Bay

San Francisco

### Sunday Patriots 21, 49ers 7

7 0 0 0-7

New England 0 7 7 7—21
First Quarter
SF-Bush 4 pass from Dorsey (Petersor kick), 2:48.
Second Quarter
NE-Vrabel 1 pass from Brady (Vinater kick), 5:57.
Third Ouarter
NE-Branch 8 pass from Brady (Vinatieri kick), 8:50.
Fourth Quarter
NE-Dillon 6 run (Vinatieri kick), 14:24.

	SF	NE		
First downs	15	23		
Total Net Yards	318	405		
Rushes-vards	35-135	28-174		
Passing	183	231		
Punt Returns	1-10	4-8		
Kickoff Returns	4-97	2-50		
Interceptions Ret.	1-31	0-0		
Comp-Att-Int	18-29-0	23-34-1		
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-6	1-5		
Punts	5-42.8	4-38.3		
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	3-2		
Penalties-Yards	7-64	4-37		
Time of Possession	30:48	29:12		
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS				

30548 3212 RUSHIPONDUAL STATISTICS RUSHING San Francisco, Barlow 25-103, Hicks 10-32. New England, Dillon 14-116, 20bb 5-20, Pass 4-16, BJohnson 1-11, Abdul-ab 2-5, Brady 1-3, Dawey 1-3, Passing—San Francisco, Dorsey 18-29-1-128, New England, Brady 22-30-1-226, Receiving—San Francisco, Comment

Davey 1-4-0-10.

Receiving—San Francisco, Corway 4-44,
Woods 3-76, E.Johnson 3-28, Barlow 2-11,
Bush 2-10, Hicks 2-10, Wilson 1-7, Walker 1-1,
Wew England, Pass 5-22, Weaver 4-62, Faurla
3-37, Branch 3-22, Glyens 2-30, B.Johnson
2-15, Patten 1-23, Dillon 1-18, T.Brown 1-6, rabel 1-1. Missed field goal—San Francisco, Peter-on 39 (WR).

### Saints 21, Panthers 18 7 7 7 0-21 3 0 7 8-18

Carolina	3	ò	7	8
First Quar	ter			
Car-FG Kasay 54, 9:24.				
NO-Stecker 7 run (Carne	ey kic	k),	:26	

Second Quarter
NO—McAllister I run (Carney kick), 1:05.
Third Quarter
Car—Muhammad 9 pass from Delhomme
(Kasay kick), 4:33.
NO—Horn 44 pass from Brooks (Carney kick), 3:10.

Kick), 3:10.

Fourth Quarter
Car—Muhammad 9 pass from Delhomme
(Seldman pass from Delhomme), 5:08.
A=73,302.

First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost Punts Fumbles-Lost Punts Penalties-Vards	NO 15 360 37-164 196 4-37 4-58 0-0 14-24-0 3-20 10-40.2 1-0 8-87	Car 21 320 13-46 274 6-48 4-113 0-0 24-50-0 6-33 8-40.1 3-3 6-45		
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS  Bushing New Orleans McAlliston 28 140				

Rushing—New Orleans, McAllister 28-140, Brooks 5-11, Stecker 1-7, Karney 2-6, Stall-worth 1-0. Carolina, Golngs 13-46. Passing—New Orleans, Brooks 14-24-0-216. Carolina, Delhomme 24-50-0-307. 14-24-21s. Carolina, Delnomme 24-304-304.
Receiving—New Orleans, Pathon 4-76.
Horn 4-75. Stallworth 3-31. Williams 1-18.
Korllister 1-14, Conwell 1-0. Carolina, Muhammad 6-95. Golngs 6-63. Mangum 6-51.
Colbert 2-93. Seidman 2-34, Proells 2-25.
Missed field gods—New Orleans, Carney 36 (W.). Carolina, Kasay 60 (BK).

### Browns 22, Texans 14

Cieveland 3 6 7 6 – 22 Houston First Quarter Cle—FG Dawson 45, 9:51 Hou—Wells 6 pass from Carr (K.Brown klck), 4:48.

Hou—Wells b pass from Carr (Kulrown delok), 448. Second Quarter Cle—FG Dawson 22, 1128. Cle—FG Dawson 29, 200. Cle—FG Dawson 29, 200. Cle—FG Dawson 19, 200. Cle—FG Dawson 45, 1470. Cle—FG Dawson 45, 1470. Hou—Davis 1 run (K.Brown kick), 1:23. A—70,724. Cle—FG Dawson 22, 4:01. Cle—FG Dawson 24, Cle Hou

First downs	18 18
Total Net Yards	364 238
Rushes-yards	32-137 24-136
Passing	227 102
Punt Returns	2-16 1-1
Kickoff Returns	1-24 7-148
Interceptions Ret.	0-0 2-4
Comp-Att-Int	20-29-2 16-27-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-1 6-28
Punts	3-32.7 7-43.1
Fumbles-Lost	0-0 1-1
Penalties-Yards	6-46 8-52
Time of Possession	34:05 25:55

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—Cleveland, Suggs 26-131, Green
2-0, Holcomb 2-(minus 2), Jackson 1-4, Northcutt 1-4. Houston, D.Davis 17-103, Carr 5-28,

cutt 1-4. Nouston, D.Davis 17-103, Carr 5-28. Wells 2-5. Passing—Cleveland, Holcomb 20-29-2-228. Passing—Cleveland, Banks 11-0-16. Receiving—Cleveland, Bryant 7-87, North-tutt 5-85, Suggs 3-23, Helder 2-20, Shea 2-5. King 1-8. Nouston, D.Davis 5-42, Miller 3-20, Bradford 2-24, Wells 2-14, Alohnson 2-13, Glassed field gala—Nore.

### Redskins 21, Vikings 18

Redskins 21, Wikings 18
Minnesota 0 1 7 8-18
Washingbian First Quarter
Wash-Cooley 6 pass from Ramsey (ChanWash-Cooley 19 pass from Ramsey (ChanWash-Qooley 19 pass from Samsey (Chandien kick), E17. Third Quarter
Wash-Qooley 19 pass from Culpepper (AnderSni kick), 5-18. From Quarter
Wash-Dest 19 pass from Culpepper (AnderWash-Dest 19 pass from Culpepper (Carrier)
Co-Smith pass from Culpepper), 322.

A—To, 366.

May Wash
May Wash
May Wash

Min Wash 21 20 320 318 18-52 31-117 268 201 2-14 3-22 4-85 3-114 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost Punts Fumbles-Lost 1-7 0-0 27-44-0 17-26-1 4-31 3-15 6-41.5 4-37.5 0-0 1-1

RUSHIOUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota, Culpepper 2-24, Bennett 8-19, O.Smith 5-5, M.Williams 3-4, Washington, Betts 26-118, Coles 1-6, Cartwright 2-0, Ramsey 1-(minus 1), Jacobs 1-(minus 6), Passing—Minnesota, Culpepper 27-44-0-299, Washington, Ramsey 1-8-299, Washington, Ramsey 1-8-299, Passing—Minnesota, Wingles 7-58

Receiving—Minnesota, Wingles 7-59

7-26-1-216.

Receiving—Minnesota. Wiggins 7-58.

Moss 5-66. Burleson 4-49. O.Smith 4-43. Robnson 3-51. Bennett 3-24. M. Williams 1-8.

Washington. Thrash 5-81. Jacobs 3-56. Coles
3-71. Cooley 3-24. Gardner 1-9. Betts 1-5.

toyal 1-4.

Missed field goals—None.

### Bengals 38, Eagles 10

Lincinati On Lagiera IV
Cincinati Pilladelphia Second Quate 3 0 7-10
Pilladelphia Second Quate 3 0 7-10
Cin-R. Lohnson's run (Graham kick), 4218.
Cin-Houshmandzadeh 20 pass from Kitna
(Graham kick), 820, 2110.
Phil-FG Akers 46, 201.
Cin-Gasthers 36 interception return (Gracham kick), 4218.
Cin-Rubinson's run (Graham kick), 459.

man xick), 6:20. The control of the

Cin Phi 16 18 308 342 35-148 16-80 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns 160 1-4 3-48 262 5-16 7-96 Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost 3-46 0-0 3-46 0-0 16-27-0 31-54-3 0-0 3-25 7-41.7 5-39.0 1-0 3-2 4-35 7-50 29:32 30:28 Punts Fumbles-Lost

Receiving—Cincinnati, Houshmandzadeh 71, C.Johnson 5-67. Websen

Receiving - Cincinnati, Houshmandzadeh 6-71, C.Johnson 5-67, Watson 1-9, I.Johnson 1-4, Schobel 1-4, Washington 1-3, Stewart 1-2, Philadelphia, Mahe 8-62, Mitchell 6-76, G.Lewis 6-53, Bartrum 3-27, Smith 2-37, Mc-Mullen 2-19, McCoo 2-15, Parry 2-(minus 2), Missed field godal - Cincinnati, Graham 37 (WR), Philadelphia, Akers 45 (WL).

### Titans 24. Lions 19

oit 3 7 3 6—19 essee 7 7 7 3—24 First Quarter 1—Bulluck 39 fumble return (Anderson

Ten—Bulluck 39 fumble return Anderson kick), 1000. Det.—To Manson 20, 216. Det.—To Manson 20, 226. Det. To Manson 20, 226. Det

Det Ten
23 15
434 312
26-103 26-95
331 217
1-5 4-6
4-71 4-80
0-0 1-43
33-47-1 8-33-0
2-15 0-0 Total Net Yards Rushes-vards

Passing
Punt Returns
Kickoff Returns
Kickoff Returns
Interceptions Ret.
Comp-Att-Int
Sacked-Yards Lost
Punts
Fumbles-Lost 33-47-1 8-33-0 2-15 0-0 5-43.0 6-39.8 1-1 0-0

Fundles-Lost
Penalites-Varies
Penalites-Varies
Review Committee Co

### Packers 31, Bears 14

Green Bay 7 21 3 0-31 Chicago 7 0 7 0-14 r 21 3 0— First Quarter Chi—T.Jones 2 run (Edinger kick), 12:54. GB—Franks 17 pass from Favre (Longw kick), 3:22.

Rick), 3:22. Second Quarter
GB—Henderson 38 pass from Favre (Long-well kick), 13:16.
GB—Sharper 43 interception return (Long-well kick), 11:52.
GB—Walker 25 pass from Nall (Longwell kick), 6:14.

rrom Nall (Long. Third Quarter Chi—T.Jones 1 run (Edinger kick), 5:48. GB—FG Longwell 20, :41. A—62,197.

First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns

GB Chi 17 17 387 246 30:60 27:110 327 136 3-4 2:31 3-59 6-121 1-43 0-0 16-26-0 20-29-1 0-0 9-60 5-37.2 6-37.5 0-0 1-0 Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost

### ssed field goals—None. Ravens 30, Dolphins 23

ni 7 0 14 2-23 nore 7 13 10 0-30 First Quarter ers 76 pass from Rosenfels First Quarter
Mia—Chambers 76 pass from Rosenfels
(Mare kick), 14:44,
Bal—Jones 1 pass from Boller (Stover
kick), 11:26.

Second Quarter over 25, 7:57. Second Quarter
Bal—FG Stover 25, 7:57,
Bal—Johnson 6 interception return (Stover kick), 7:08,
Bal—FG Stover 19, :08,
Bal—FG Stover 19, :08,
Bal—JLewis 2 run (Stover kick), 11:24, Mia-Welker 95 kickoff return (Mare kick),

Mia Bal 18 21 345 332 20-97 41-190 248 142 3-28 2-32 8-237 4-78 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost

nes 1-1. Missed field goal—Miami, Mare 53 (WR).

### Steelers 29. Bills 24

Pittsburgh 10 6 0 13-29 Buffalo 7 3 7 7-24 outfalo 7 3 7 7-Pit-FG Reed 22, 10:44, Bufl-McGahee 3 run (Lindell kick), 6:14, Pit-Randle El 16 pass from Maddox (Re kick), 3:28.

κick), 3:28. Second Quarter
Pit—FG Reed 21, 13:39.
Pit—FG Reed 31, 4:22.
Buf—FG Lindell 37, 93.
Third Quarter
Buf—Clements 30 interception return (Lindell kick), 12:31.

gen Kick), 12:31. Fourth Quarter
Pitt-FG Reed 37, 14:49.
Pit-Harrison 18 fumble return (Reed
kick), 13:24.
Pit-FG Reed 33, 2:23.
Buf-MaGahee 1 run (Lindell kick), 1:18.
A-73,418.

Pit Buf 15 16 262 267 43-157 20-96 43-157 21-91 105 171 2-31 2-31 4-67 7-149 1-1 2-46 12-25-2 16-30-1 2-15 6-44.7 7-40 12-108 35:03 24:57 ATISTICS 

16-30-1-189. Pittsburgh, Randle El 7-81, Receiving—Pittsburgh, Randle El 7-81, Ward 2-11, Parker 2-4, Mays 1-24, Buffalo, Alken 4-52, Moulds 4-37, Neufeld 3-15, Evans 2-63, Trafford 1-10, McGahee 1-7, Shelton 1-5. Missed field goal—Buffalo, Lindell 28 (WR).

### Rams 32. Jets 29 (OT)

3 7 16 3 0-29 0 14 7 8 3-32

it Louis First Quarter

NYJ—FG Brien 47, 1:13.

Second Quarter

Stt.—Bruce 27 pass from Bulger (Wilkins Ick), 7:54.
NYJ—Baker 8 pass from Pennington (Brien NYJ—Baker

kick), 4:14. StL-Holt 44 pass from Bulger (Wilkins kick), 1:00. StL-Jackson 20 run (Wilkins kick), 13:30. NYJ-Cotchery 94 kickoff return (Brie-ick) 13:19

kick), 13:19. NYJ-FG Brien 33, 9:56. NYJ-Vilma 38 interception return (pass failed), 1:12. ailed), 1:12.

Fourth Quarter

StL—Holt 19 pass from Bulger (Jackson

StL—F0It 19 pass from un), 5:06. NYJ—FG Brien 27, :03. Overtim StL—FG Wilkins 31, 3:02. A—65,877.

NYJ StL

Enrue 0-1-0-0.

Receiving—New York, McCareins 6-62.
Moss 4-28. Martin 2-22. Chrebet 2-18. Cotchs.
Solved 1-1. St. Louis, Holt 7-115. Curtis 6-99.
Bruce 5-18. Cakson 4-51. McChonald 2-3.
Manumaleuna 2-32. Looker 1-14. M.Faulk
1-11. Goodspeed 1-6.
Missed field goal—New York, Brien 53
(WR).

Seahawks 28. Falcons 26

First Quarter

Atl-Price 2 pass from Vick (Feely kick), 6:19. Sea-Alexander 1 run (J.Brown kick), 3:06. Second Quarter

Second Quarter
Atl—FG Feely 33, 83.22.
Atl—DAlall 48 interception return (Feely
kick), 655.
Sea—Jackson 3, pass from Hasselbeck
(Liferom kick), 324.
Third Quarter
Sea—Stevens 3 pass from Hasselbeck
(Liferom kick), 1000.
Atl—FG Feely
Fourth Quarter
Atl—FG Feely
Atl—

AtI-PG Feely 40, 10:12.
Sea-Hasselbeck 1 run (J.Brown kick), 4:28.
AtI-Enraran 3 pass from Schaub (run failed), :00.
A-66,740.

First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns 22 353 21

38-204 21-83 149 170 2-0 0-0 2-0 0-0 4-75 4-75 1-48 1-31 20-29-1 21-27-1 3-18 4-21 2-31.0 4-33.5 1-0 0-0 8-52 1-5 Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost Punts Fumbles-Lost Penalties-Yards

Fumbles-loat
Permaluse-loat
Permaluse-loat
Permaluse-loat
Permaluse-loat
Permaluse-loat
Permaluse-load
Permalus

### Cardinals 12. Buccaneers 7

Ari – FG Rackers 40, 906.

Ari – FG Rackers 40, 906.

Second Quarter

Ari – FG Rackers 45, 93.

Third Quarter

TB—Clayton 75 pass from Simms (Taylor kick), 1:24.

Fourth Quarter Ari-FG Rackers 39, 11:07. Ari-FG Rackers 31, 6:12. A-31,650.

TB 11 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards 249 222 21-62 34-107 

 Passing—Tampa Bay, Simms 16-32-2-224, Arizona, McCown 16-36-1-115.
 Receiving—Tampa Bay, Galloway 3-48, Pittman 3-30, Jureviclus 3-20, Clayton 2-86, Alstott 2-15, Lawrie 1-15, Baber 1-7, Dilger 1-3, Tracona, Fitzgerald 3-36, Boldin 3-31, Jones 2-18.
 Esmith 2-13, Bohmson 2-9, Ayanbadejo 2-18. Williams 1-8, McCown 1-(minus 5).

Missed field goals—Arizona, Rackers 35
(WL), 47 (WL).

### Jaguars 13, Raiders 6

Jacksonville Oakland 0 3 10 0-13 3 3 0 0-6 First Quarter owski 35, 9:27.

First Quarter
Oak—FG Janikowski 35,927.
Second Quarter
Jac—Scobee 26, 10:15.
Oak—FG Janikowski 27, 0:02.
Third Quarter
Jac—Scobee 22, 7:10.
Jac—Jones 1 run (Scobee kick), 3:41.
A—41,112.

Jac Oak 13 16 242 281 34-93 29-147 149 134 4-45 1-0 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns 3-57 3-50 3-37 1-8 15-28-1 15-39-3 Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost Punts 1-0 2-8 7-43.6 6-39.7 Fumbles-Lost

Fumbles-Lost 1-1 3-1
Penalties-Yards 1-767 8-72
Time of Possession 30:53 29:07
Ilme of Possession 30:53 29:07
Rushing-Jacksonville, G.Jones Is-300Leftwidn 1-4, Toeffeld 7-8 2-12
Leftwidn 1-12
Left

15-28-1-149. Oakland, Collins 15-39-3-142. Receiving—Jacksonville, L5mith 3-22, T.Ed-wards 3-21, Wilford 2-56, Toefield 2-26, Yoder 2-8, M.Edwards 1-15, Braday 1-8, Leftwich 1-(minus 7). Oakland, Porter 3-35, Zercous 3-18, Crockett 3-12, Jolley 2-34, Garbriel 2-30, Whitted 1-10, Redmond 1-3. Missed field goals—None.

#### NFL scoreboard

### Chargers 24. Cheifs 17 0 3 0 14-17 3 14 0 7-24

San Diego First Quarter
5D – FG Kaeding 34, 1055.
Second Quarter
KC – FG Tynes 50, 708.
SD – Flute I nun (Kaeding kick), 2:24.
SD – Krause 10 pass from Flutie (Kaeding kick), 2:24.

Fourth Quarter
SD—Floyd 13 pass from Rivers (Kaeding kick), 711.
KC—Lubnson 2 run (Tynes kick), 4:10.
KC—Lubnson 14 pass from Green (Tynes kick), 4:20.
A—64,920.

KC SD 26 21 443 363 20-70 30-138 373 225 1-1 1-(-1) 5-85 2-35 1-25 4-41 33-53-4 18-31-1 0-0 1-7 2-39.0 4-39.0 0-0 4-39.0 0-0 30:11 29:49 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost Punts

Purts. — Loss — Service — Loss — Service — Ser

### Broncos 33, Colts 14

7 7 0 0-14 7 13 10 3-33 First Quarter

Ind—Harrison 7 pass from Sorgi (Vander-jagt kick), 7:17. Den—Lelie 38 pass from Plummer (Elam

scick, 4.14. Second Quarter
ben-F6 Elank 5, 2012
ben-F8 Lank 5, 2012
ben-Bage 2 pass from Plummer (Elan
ind-Wayner 1) pass from Sonj (Vanderjags 160), 427, 123, 48.
ben-F6 Lank 5 and Mack 750, 2012
ben-F6 Lank 5 and 5 an

d Den 8 23 0 453 4 42-214 6 239 6 5-69 8 3-72 First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards 8 23 200 453 15-34 42-214 166 239 2-16 5-69 7-188 3-72 0-0 0-0 17-27-0 17-30-0 Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Return nterceptions Ret. omp-Att-Int acked-Yards Lost 

-15. Passing—Indianapolis, Sorgi 16-25-0-168, Ianning 1-2-0-6. Denver, Plummer 7-30-246.

Receiving Indianapolis, Harrison 5-33, 4yayne 3-90, Pyatt 2-12, Hartsock 2-12, Mun-ro 2-11, Moorehead 1-7, Walters 1-5, Clark 4-, Denver, Smith 6-76, Celle 3-70, Puzler 6-7, Bell 2-16, Hape 2-8, Carswell 1-9. Missed field goals—Non-

Giants 28, Cowboys 24

N.Y. Glants 0 7 0 21–28

First Quarter
Dal – FG Cundiff 40, 4:15.
Second Quarter
NY—Shlancoe 2 pass from Manning
Christie kick), 12-48.
Dal – FG Cundiff 24, 12-6.
Dal – FG Cundiff 24, 12-6.
Dal – Witten 7 pass from Testaverde (Cundiff kick), 43. arter from Manning

diff kick), 45.

Fourth Quarter
W—Types Fourth Quarter
W—Types pass from Manning (Christie
kis), 1658.
W—Barber 3 pass from Manning (Christie
kick), 1151.
Dal—JJones 1 run (Witten pass from
Testaverdo), 1909.
W—Testaverdo), 1909.
W—Testaverdo, 1909.

Dal 21 367 30-151 216 3-21 5-65 1-(-2) 23-31-1 4-15 3-43.0 NY 18 235 25-98 137 2-23 5-80 1-12 18-27-1 First downs Total Net Yards Interceptions Ret. Comp-Att-Int Sacked-Yards Lost 5-43.6 George

7-1-144. ceiving—Dallas, Witten 8-77, Crayton JJones 5-46, Morgan 3-28, KJohnson Polite 1-4. New York, Tyree 7-71, Rivers Hilliard 3-22, Barber 3-21, Shlancoe 2-6. ssed field goals—None.

# **Eagles limp into playoffs on losing streak**

PHILADELPHIA - Donovan McNabb and Brian Westbrook need to ditch the sneakers and team jackets, and Terrell Owens might want to start testing that iniured ankle

The Philadelphia Eagles are a losing team without their starters. With McNabb, Westbrook and several other regulars sitting out,

the Eagles' backups again were dominated in a 38-10 loss to the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday. "We'll get ourselves back ready

for the playoffs," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. The Eagles may have a 13-3

record, a No. 1 seed and the home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs, but they finished the season with a two-game losing streak. Only the 1967 Green Bay Packers won the Super Bowl after losing the final two regular-season games.

Philadelphia rested most of its regulars in the last two games in an effort to stay healthy, scared after likely losing Owens for the rest of the season to an ankle inju-

The Eagles insisted they'll be ready for the playoffs — even with a nearly four-week break for

NFL starters like Westbrook roundup

Jevon Kearse, who both sat out

the last two games. "We'll be all right. We're a veteran ballclub," defensive tackle

Corey Simon said. The Eagles will play either Jan

Rudi Johnson ran for three touchdowns and 99 yards and the Bengals finished 8-8 for the second year in a row

Chargers 24, Chiefs 17: The Chargers rested Pro Bowlers Drew Brees, LaDainian Tomlinson and Antonio Gates as well as defensive tackle Jamal Williams and still had too much for visiting Kansas City (7-9), which had a winning four-game streak snapped.

Kansas City's Tony Gonzalez set an NFL record for tight ends with 102 catches, six more than Ben Coates' total in 1994. Gonzalez's 14 catches for 144 yards set a club mark, surpassing the 12 by Ed Podolak in 1973.

Trent Green had four passes intercepted.

Packers 31. Rears 14: Brett

the Bears (5-11) for the 21st time in the past 26 meetings - including 11 straight on the road. Favre played the first quarter and one series in the second, going 9-for-13 for 196 yards and two

touchdowns. Favre also went over 4.000 yards passing for the fourth time in his career and reached 30 TD passes for the eighth time

Patriots 21, 49ers 7: Host New England, a franchise-best 14-2 for the second straight season, got Tom Brady's two TD passes after he threw an intercention and lost a fumble.

The Patriots' regular-season

record of scoring first in 20 straight games ended on Ken Dorsey's 4-yard pass to third-string tight end Steve Bush late in the first quarter.

San Francisco matched its franchise-worst 2-14 record and clinched the top pick in this

Titans 24, Lions 19: The Titans (5-11) snapped a five-game skid. They were without 14 players from their opening day roster because of injuries, but had more than enough to handle visiting De-

ing Cleveland (4-12) ended a nine-game losing streak, denving Houston (7-9) its first non-losing season. Lee Suggs had his third straight 100-yard rushing day with 131 yards, and Phil Dawson kicked five field goals, giving Browns interim coach Terry Robiskie his only victory in five games since replacing Butch Davrie

Cardinals 12, Buccaneers 7: Neil Rackers kicked four field goals and the host Cardinals (6-10) stifled Tampa Bay (5-11), handing the Buccaneers their worst record since going 5-11 in Giants 28, Cowboys 24: Tiki

Barber became the Giants' ca-reer rushing leader and scored the winning points on a 3-yard run with 11 seconds to play. Eli Manning also threw three touchdown passes in his first NFL victory as the Giants (6-10) snapped an eight-game losing streak.Barber set the Giants' season (1,518) and career (6,927) rushing records in the game, surpassing marks held by Joe Morris (1,516 in 1986) and Rodney Hampton (6,897, 1990-97).

# Playing OT allows Martin to win rushing title

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Curtis Martin worked overtime to capture the NFL rushing title by a yard over Seattle's Shaun Alexander.

Martin rushed for 153 yards on 28 carries in the Jets' 32-29 overtime loss to the St. Louis Rams on Sunday. That gave him 1,697 yards, one more than Alexander, who had 80 yards in 19 carries as the Seahawks heat the Atlanta Falcons 28-26.

The overtime period gave Martin the title; he had 24 yards on three carries in the extra period. It was his first rushing title, even though he has run for more than 1.000 vards in each of his 10 pro seasons.

Alexander scored more points than any non-kicker, getting 120 on 20 touchdowns, 16 rushing and four receiving. Adam Vinatieri won the overall title with 141 points.

Kansas City tight end Tony Gonzalez had 14 receptions Sunday to give him the title with 102, a record for a tight end. He was the only receiver over 100 this season; Tennessee's Derrick Mason was the leading wide receiver

Carolina's Muhsin Muhammad led in receiving yards with 1,405, followed by New Orleans' Joe Horn with 1,399.

Indianapolis' Dwight Freeney led the league with 16 sacks and Baltimore's Ed Reed got his ninth interception Sunday against Miami, tops in the NFL. His 41-yard return increased his vardage total to 358, a league Tiki Barber of the New York Giants led in

yards from scrimmage with 2,096, based on 1,518 rushing and 578 receiving.

### 2005 NFL opponents

APC
EAST
Buffalo Bills
Home: Miami, New England, N.Y. Jets, Denver, Kansas City, Atlanta, Carolina, Houston
Away: Miami, New England, N.Y. Jets, Oakand, San Diego, New Orleans, Tampa Bay,

ee Away: Buffalo, New England, N.Y. Jets, Oak land, San Diego, New Orleans, Tampa Bay

Cleveland

New England Patriots

Home: Buffalo, Miami, N.Y. Jets, Oakland,

Saft Diego, New Oreato, Tempo acy, Tempo acy

NORTH
Baltimore Ravens
Home: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh,
louston, Indianapolis, Green Bay, Minnesoa, N.Y. Jefs Houston, Indianapolis, Green Bay, Minneso-ta, N.Y. Jets Away: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Jacksonville, Tennessee, Chicago, Detroit.

Denver Chicago, Detroit,
Chicinati Bengals
Home: Baltimore, Cleveland, Pittsburgh,
Houston, Indianapolis, Green Bay, Minneso-ta, Buffalo
Away: Baltimore, Cleveland, Pittsburgh,
Jacksonville, Tennessee, Chicago, Detroit,
Kansas City

ansas City

Cleveland Browns

Home: Baltimore, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, acksonville, Tennessee, Chicago, Detroit, Miami
Away: Baltimore, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh
Houston, Indianapolis, Green Bay, Minneso
ta, Qakland

a, Oakland

Pittsburgh Steelers

Home: Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleviacksonville, Tennessee, Chicago, D

Home: Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennes-see, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Arizona, St. Louis, Kansas City Away: Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennes-see, Baltimore, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Se-attle, Buffalo

ttle, Buffalo Indianapolis Colts Home: Houston, Jacksonville, Tenne leveland, Pittsburgh, Arizona, St. Louis

Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Arkone, acceptable of Diego Away: Houston, Jacksonville, Tennessee, Baltimore, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Seattle, New Englacksonville Jaguars Home: Houston, Indianapolis, Tennessee, Baltimore, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Seattle Donyer

le, Denver Away: Houston, Indianapolis, Ten Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Arizona, St.

N.Y. Jets Tennessee Titans
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Chicago

Seattle Seahawks

Home: Arizona, San Francisco, St. Louis
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lanta
Away: Arizona, San Francisco, St. Louis,
Philadelphia, Washington, Jacksonville, Tennessee, Green Bay



St. Louis Rams wide receiver Torry Holt (81) become the first player in NFL history with five consecutive 1,300-yard receiving seasons.

# Rams edge Jets in OT to earn berth

By R.B. FALLSTROM
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — So what if the St. Louis Rams finished the season without a winning record. They are going to the playoffs.

Marc Bulger threw for 450 yards and three touchdowns to help the 500 Rams make the post-season with a 32-29 overtime victory on Sunday. The Rams (8-8) won their last two games after dropping four of the previous five, and the victory coupled with a Vikings' loss to the Redskins made their finish count.

"Once you get into the playoffs, everything is fair game," running back Steven Jackson said. "That's the feeling we have. We're peaking at the right time."

Curtis Martin won the NFL rushing title for the Jets (10-6), who got into the postseason, too. New York qualified when the Bills lost to the Steelers before their game against St. Louis got to overtime.

"I think for those of us who didn't know we made the playoffs regardless, we came in here kind of bitter," running back Curtis Martin said. "When we found that we were in, it kind of made us feel better."

Jeff Wilkins' 31-yard field goal with 3:03 to go in overtime ended the longest game in the NFL this year. The Jets forced overtime when Doug Brien kicked a 27-yard field goal with 3 seconds left in regulation.

Then, they played to win in the extra period.

Coach Herman Edwards left Martin and quarterback Chad Pennington in the game. He also allowed Brien to attempt a 53-yard field goal that went wide right, giving the Rams possession at their 43 to start their winning drive.

"We got a pass, and then again we didn't get a pass because we won 10 games," Edwards said. "I hate to lose getting in, but we'll take it"

The Rams made the playoffs for the fourth time in five seasons under coach Mike Martz and will play the NTC West champion Seahawks (9-7) for the third time on Saturday in Seattle St. Louis won two regular-season meetings, rallying from a 17-point fourth-quarter deficit in the last six minutes in Seattle in October for their most impressive victory of the season.

The Jets, who made the playoffs for the third time in four years with Edwards, will play at AFC West champion San Diego on Saturday.

They won at San Diego in the second game of the season.

Shaun Ellis had three sacks and tipped a pass that Jonathan Vilma returned 38 yards for a touchdown for the Jets, who enter the postseason on a 5-6 slide after

beginning the year 5-0.
"The feeling would have been a lot better had we won," Ellis said. "Obviously, our mood is kind of like in the middle, so we just have to put this game behind us and get ready for next week."

Martin had 153 yards on 28 carries and finished with 1,697 yards, beating Shaun Alexander of the Seahawks by 1 yard for his first rushing title. He also moved into fourth place on the NFL career rushing list, passing Eric

Dickerson and Jerome Bettis.

Bulger needed only five plays, the last a 22-yard swing pass to Jackson, to get the Rams in posi-

tion for Wilkins' game-winner.

A revived offense that scored more than 20 points for the first time in seven weeks helped the Rams advance. St. Louis appeared to have taken control early in the third quarter when Jackson broke a pair of tackles on a 20-yard run that made it 21-10.

# Seahawks clinch NFC West, get another shot at St. Louis

BY TIM KORTE
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Seattle Seahawks have one more shot to knock off the St. Louis Rams — this

time it'll come in the wild-card playoffs

"We felt like we let one, for sure, get away from us," Seattle cornerback Ken Lucas said of the earlier meetings this season. "Then we went to their place and they took care of business. We get another chance to redeem ourselves. We feel we can do that next week."

The Seahawks (9-7) will be home for Saturday's opening round of the playoffs because they edged the Rams (8-8) by one game for the NFC West title.

Matt Hasselbeck threw two touchdown passes and got another TD on a sneak, leading Seattle to a 28-26 win over the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday, a victory that locked up the division title and assured a home same for the rematch with the Rams.

"We know what kind of team they are," Seahawks cornerback Marcus Trufant said. "They are a big-play type of team. They pass the ball all over the place and they are a good team."

Had the Seahawks lost to Atlanta (11-5), they would have traveled to St. Louis next weekend. Seattle's defense has been vulnerable to huge col-

Seattle's defense has been vulnerable to huge collapses this season, perhaps none more dramatic than an Oct. 10 meltdown. St.

Louis erased a 27-10 deficit in the fourth quarter in Seattle and won 33-27 in overtime.

Then came a 43-39 loss to Dallas, where the Sea-

They could have done it again against the Falcons, but they didn't. Warrick Dunn was smothered by a collection of Seattle defenders on a 2-point conversion attempt that would have forced overtime but instead ended the game.

"I knew I wasn't in," Dunn said.

Atlanta reserve quarterback Matt Schaub threw a 3-yard TD pass to Brian Finneran as time expired. The game's final drive covered 69 yards and consumed 4:28, and it seemed for a moment that maybe the Seahawks might fold again.

Not this time, though.

"It's a testament to where we have come from," rookie safety Michael Boulware said. "Earlier in the season, we've lost those and now we're starting to win them. Hopefully, we can carry that into the playoffs and build on it."

Seattle's Shaun Alexander ran for 80 yards, finishing 1 yard behind Curtis Martin of the New York Jets (1,697) for the NFL's rushing title.

"I didn't know. It would have been sweet to get it. I feel worse because we had a quarterback sneak for a touchdown. That hurts, but I'll be all right," Alexander joked, speaking though a big smile.

It was a meaningless game for Atlanta, which lost its final two after securing the NFC's No. 2 seed in the playoffs two weeks ago.

The Falcons get a first-round by enext weekend. Schaub almost helped the Falcons win anyway.

On third-and-goal from the 3, Schaub found Finneran on a crossing route at the back of the end zone.

"I knew there wasn't another second to be squeezed out of that clock," Seahawks coach Mike

Holmgren said.

That set up the 2-point conversion try. Schaub rolled left and handed off for a counter play to Dunn, who almost got across the goal line before he was enzulfed by linebacker Chad Brown and a pile

"It was huge. It won the game for us," Brown said

# Steelers' subs sink Bills' bid to make postseason

BY JOHN WAWROW

The Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Bills comerback Terrence McGee had trouble figuring out who Willie Parker was even after the game ended.

"I still don't know who that is," McGee said. "Who is this Willie Parker?"

You know, Willie Parker, the fourth-string running back who had 102 yards rushing and helped a collection of Steelers backups knock Buffalo out of the playoffs.

Resting most of their starters, including Ben Roethlisberger and Jerome Bettis, the play-off-bound Steelers showed they can win with backups, beating the Bills 29-24 on Sunday.

The Steelers won their 14th straight to match a single-season record set by Miami in 1972, and became just the fourth team in NFL history — and first in the AFC — to finish 15-1.

They won with Parker, an undrafted free agent, who became only the third player to have 100 yards rushing against what had been a stingy Buffalo defense this season.

They won with third-string quarterback Brian St. Pierre running the offense with the game on the line.

And they won with backup linebacker James Harrison, another undrafted free agent, returning a fumble 18 yards for what proved to be the decisive score.

"If there was a team that you could put up as a poster boy for a 53-man roster, it's us," St. Pierre

said.
"It was a whale of a game," coach Bill Cowher said. "We were playing to win this football game. ... These are the same guys we may need in the playoffs."

The Steelers had already clinched home-field advantage before the game. They now have a two-week wait to determine who they'll play.

The Bills have a long offseason to ponder what went wrong. So much for the resilience Buf-

falo (9-7) showed in winning six straight and nine of 11 to overcome an 0-4 start. So much for making the playoffs for the first time since 1999

The Bills' loss clinched a berth for the New York Jets despite their overtime loss to St. Louis. "Pretty angry. ... I'm a little bit

in shock," said a red-eyed Drew Bledsoe. "The bottom line is if we can't beat them with their backups on the field, then we probably don't deserve to be in."

"It's frustrating because I want more for this organization, especially the fans," receiver Eric Moulds said. "I feel like they deserve more than what we showed today."



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Buffalo Bills quarterback Drew Bledsoe fumbles as he is sacked by Pittsburgh Steelers' Ricardo Colclough (21) on Sunday.

The Bills looked nothing like a team that outscored its opponents 228-89 in its previous six games.

Buffalo managed just 267 yards, with seven three-and-outs. And the defense couldn't get the Steelers off the field, losing the time-of-possession battle by more than 11 minutes.

The game turned late in the third quarter after Rian Lindell missed wide right on a 28-yard field goal that left the Bills clinging to a 17-16 lead.

The Steelers responded with 10 points in an 85-second span at the start of the fourth quarter.

The decisive play came when Bledsoe was blind-sided by rookie cornerback Ricardo Colclough, who forced a fumble that fell directly into Harrison's hands.

# **Broncos beat Colts 'B' team for wild card**

BY EDDIE PELLS

The Associated Press

DENVER - The Indianapolis Colts put their 'B' team on the field and left Peyton Manning and Edgerrin James on the side-

The Denver Broncos took advantage with a 33-14 victory Sunday and earned a dubious reward. A trip to Indy for the play. offs to face the Colts at full strength.

"If we were going to have Peyton and our whole group out there, then we wanted to use everything we had," Colts coach Tony Dungy said. "We weren't going to do that if we were going to have to play these guys again."

Jake Plummer threw for 246 yards and two touchdowns as Denver (10-6) earned the AFC's final wild-card spot, and a re-match next Sunday in which Manning will almost certainly throw more than the two passes he attempted in this game.

The teams also met last year in the first round, and the Colts (12-4) embarrassed the Broncos 41-10.

"I called that 'The Scene of the Crime,' because they stole our season from us there, and they did it in a big way," Broncos receiver Rod Smith said.

The Colts came into this game locked into the third seed in the AFC playoffs and knowing a rematch with Denver was very possible

They had nothing to play for, and acted accordingly

Manning played just one series, finishing the regular season with the same NFL-record 49 touchdowns he entered the

"It's not something you want to get used to," Manning said. "I'd rather be out there playing.'

He wasn't alone.

James also played just the first series, running once for minus-2 yards. The Colts started three rookies in their defensive backfield and Plummer took advantage, writing a nice closing chapter to a difficult regular season in which he took every

His 246 yards gave him 4,089 for the season, surpassing John Elway (1993) for the single-season franchise record. His two touchdowns, including 38-yard. over-the-shoulder catch by Ashley Lelie, gave Plummer 27 for the season, which tied Elway for the team record.

"I've never been about stats," Plummer "I'm really happy to be back in the

Meanwhile, Plummer avoided any interceptions and finished the year with 20, many of which cost the Broncos dearly in a wildly inconsistent season.

By going 1-for-2, Manning finished the year with a 121.1 passer rating, easily breaking Steve Young's record.

broken," said Broncos coach Mike Shanahan, who was with the 49ers the year Young set the mark.

With the record secure and his afternoon over. Manning stood on the sideline with the headphones on and watched rookie Jim Sorgi lead the Colts.

Sorgi (16-for-25, 168 yards, two touchdowns) completed his first seven passes and led Indy on a 56-yard drive for an

early 7-0 lead Later, he hit Reggie Wayne on a timing route and Wayne spun away from two Broncos for a 71-yard score that cut Den-

ver's 10-point lead to 17-14 From there, though, Denver slowly pulled away and got ready for a playoff trip under circumstances very similar to last

The Broncos qualified for the 2003 postseason with a 31-17 win over Indy in Week 15 - Manning played that game - but got humiliated two weeks later. Manning threw five touchdowns that day and Denver remained without a postseason victory since winning the 1998 Super Bowl.

Broncos safety John Lynch had Sunday's hardest hit, a helmet-to-helmet shot on Dallas Clark that resulted in a fumble and an apparent Denver touchdown.

On review, though, referee Pete Morelli ruled the pass incomplete. The touchdown was nullified, a flag for unnecessary roughness that had been thrown, then picked up,

Indianapolis Colts defenders Anthony Floyd, left, and Jason David, back, break up a pass intended for Denver Broncos wide reciever Jason Lelie (85) on Sunday.

was reinstated, and Lynch will likely pay a price in the form of a fine from the NFI Given the pending rematch, he said he wasn't all that unset about it

'You've got to hit a team like that," he said. "They're so skilled, so fast, you've got to do something to slow them down.

# Ravens shut out of postseason

BY DAVID GINSBURG The Associated Press

BALTIMORE - The Baltimore Ravens walked off the field still hopeful of reaching the playoffs

Three hours later, their season

After defeating Miami 30-23 on Sunday, the Ravens' chances of reaching the postseason rested on Denver losing to an Indianapolis team with nothing to play for and Jacksonville tying or losing to Oakland.

Denver won to clinch the final AFC wild-card slot, but the Ravens couldn't fault anyone but themselves for the way their season ended.

"If there is anybody to blame for the situation, it's definitely us, linebacker Terrell Suggs said.

A season-opening loss to Cleveland and home defeats against Kansas City and Cincinnati put the Ravens in a situation where they had to depend on others to reach the postseason. That same kind of inconsistent play was on display Sunday during a game that Baltimore should have won handily.

Playing against a downtrodden Miami team that was forced to third-string quarterback Sage Rosenfels, Baltimore built a 27-7 lead, then allowed the Dolphins to close to 27-21 before hold-

"If we could win 40-7, that would be great," quarterback



Baltimore Ravens' Ed Reed, center, rushes upfield with blockers Edgerton Hartwell, left, Chris McAllister, foreground right, and Adalius Thomas during the third quarter on Sunday.

Kyle Boller said, "but that's the To secure a playoff berth, Balti-

more (9-7) needed to defeat Miami and have Buffalo, Denver and Jacksonville fail to win. Buffalo lost to Pittsburgh while

the Rayens played, and the other two games began soon after Baltimore left the field for what turned out to be the final time this

"Time for a little Chinese food and a little game-watching. Ravens coach Brian Billick said before hurrying home.

The late games probably ru-ined his meal, but at least Baltimore made it to the last week of the season before seeing their playoff hopes dashed. Miami (4-12), which long ago began looking toward 2005, completed its worst season since 1969. The Dolphins, who finished 3-4

under interim coach Jim Bates, have already hired Nick Saban as their new head coach.

"We ended 3-4 and played some darn good football teams," Bates said. "Myself, all I feel is jubilation over having the opportunity to lead these guys over the last eight weeks of this season. I'll never forget this experience." Miami used a 95-yard kickoff

return by Wes Welker - the Dolphins' first for a score since 1989

— and a 35-yard TD run by Sammy Morris to get to 27-21.

It was 30-21 when Travis Minor appeared to score a touchdown for Miami, but officials ruled he came up short and Anthony Weaver ended the drive with

an intercention Baltimore's Jamal Lewis scored a touchdown and ran for 167 yards, giving him 1,006 for the season, and Jarret Johnson returned an interception for score. Teammate Ed Reed got his ninth interception and returned it 41 yards to get an NFL record for INT return yardage in a season

### Jaguars' early season blunders prove costly

BY JANIE MCCAULEY

The Associated Press OAKLAND, Calif. - The Jack-

sonville Jaguars believe their season ended too soon, and a shutout loss in the second-to-last week will haunt them for the rest of the winter. The Jaguars did their part to

try to reach the postseason by beating the Oakland Raiders 13-6 on Sunday, but their fate was decided minutes before their game ended when the Indianapolis Colts lost in Denver.

It wouldn't have come to this had Jacksonville not been blanked by Houston on Dec. 26.

"There's no doubt we would have been in the playoffs if we would have beaten Houston and won here," cornerback Rashean Mathis said, referring to the 21-0 loss to the Tevans

If they could take something positive from Sunday it was that the Jaguars recorded their first winning season in five years

Still, this club hoped to continue its season because Jacksonville will host its first Super Bowl next month.

"That kind of put a downer on the day," coach Jack Del Rio said after learning his team was eliminated while in the tunnel that leads to the locker room. "I didn't see anything on the board during

the game Byron Leftwich threw for 149 yards a week after sustaining a mild concussion, barely outplaying Oakland counterpart Kerry Collins, and Greg Jones scored on a 1-yard run for the game's only touchdown to break a third-quar-

ter tie.

The Raiders had a chance to send the game into overtime in the final seconds, but Collins fumbled the snap on fourth-and-goal at the 2, picked it up and was tackled for a loss.

"It's disappointing," Raiders coach Norv Turner said. "We had so many chances to win the game and at the end to tie the football game and put it into overtime, but we just couldn't get it done.' By beating the Raiders in the

teams' first meeting since 1997, the Jaguars (9-7) established a winning road record for the first time since the '99 season when they went 14-2, 7-1 away from home

"Our season has been disappointing," Leftwich said.

The Raiders understand They are just 9-23 in two seasons since reaching the Super Bowl.

'Guys have to make plays. Guys have to really commit themselves as to what it is they really want to do," Oakland running back Tyrone Wheatley said. "The last two years here, we've had some guys who think they can just line up on Sunday and play football. It doesn't work that way You have to commit yourself and stop thinking that your job is a sac-

Collins capped his up-and-down season with a statistically disastrous finale: three interceptions, one lost fumble, no touchdowns and a 17.3 passer rating.

Donovin Darius intercepted two passes by Collins, including one in the end zone with 4:07 left.

"I made some stupid throws

and some stupid decisions, things that hurt us." Collins said.

# Vikings catch a break, get into playoffs despite loss

BY JOSEPH WHITE The Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. open deep over the middle, Nate Burleson dropped a sure touchdown pass in the fourth quarter.

"I don't know what happened the Minnesota receiver said. "I just dropped the ball."

Mike Tice knows. Despite his best psychological cajoling, the coach saw his Vikings play tense and tight in a season-ending game they needed to win to be sure of clinching a playoff berth. As it was. Minnesota lost 21-18 to the Washington Redskins on Sunday but still qualified for the postseason because New Orleans beat Carolina

The Vikings (8-8) will play their first playoff game since 2000 in Green Bay next Sunday The Packers beat Minnesota twice this season by the same score: 34-31

"We'll spend a week trying to come up with ways to get them to just go out and have fun," Tice "and make plays and not make mistakes when there's something sitting right there for

He'll have plenty of coaching material as supporting evidence.

Besides Burleson's drop, there was a false start on Randy Moss that essentially stopped a drive at the 1-yard line, a holding penalty on right tackle Adam Goldberg that negated a long touchdown pass to Moss, and a game-opening 66-vard kickoff return by Antonio Brown that set up a touchdown to put the Redskins ahead early and for good.

The Vikings finished 8-8, losing seven of their last 10 after a 5-1 start. Last year, they fell from 6-0 to 9-7 and were eliminated by a touchdown pass on the last play of the season in a loss to Arizona Tice jokingly referred to himself as "Coach Collapse" last week in an effort to lighten the mood. Now he has to come up with a new

"Most people say we backed into the playoffs. Yeah, that's "Tice said. "Fortunately, we start off the same with 0-0.

"Unfortunately, we certainly don't come into this thing with any tremendous rhythm."

The Redskins (6-10) gave a spir-



Redskins safety Sean Taylor (36) knocks a ball away from Minnesota wide receiver Randy Moss (84), preventing a reception during the second quarter. Minnesota lost its finale and still claimed a playoff spot.

ited finishing performance to Joe Gibbs' otherwise disappointing comeback season. His record is his worst in 13 years as a coach. and his offense consistently ranked at the bottom of the NFL

all season. "There were a lot of first-year coaches out there, and they did a lot better job than I did," Gibbs said. "I think the most important thing to come out of this year is with a real good understanding of the players

The Hall of Fame coach doesn't plan on skipping a beat to begin preparations for next season, starting with a weeklong evaluation of the entire roster.

"I'm anxious to get started," Gibbs said. "The offseason will be a big time for us. I think it will be one of the most important six months of my coaching career,

trying to help ourselves every way we can. I think the most important thing is that our guys went and finished strong."

Patrick Ramsey completed 17 of 26 passes for 216 yards with two touchdowns and one intercepand Ladell Betts ran times for a career-high 118 yards subbing for injured back Clinton Portis

The Redskins went 6-0 when a back rushed for 100 yards, 0-10 otherwise.

Washington's undermanned defense rattled Minnesota quarterback Daunte Culpepper with four sacks, and several times forced him to throw the ball away. Culpepper completed 27 of 44 passes for 299 yards and two touchdowns. His last pass was a 38-yard desperation touchdown to Marcus Robinson with 2 seconds remaining.



Panthers Jake Delhomme (17) and Muhsin Muhammad (87) walk along the sideline after turning the ball over to the Saints late in the game.

## Saints top Panthers but fail to get help

BY JENNA FRYER The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Written off as a playoff contender months ago, the Carolina Panthers clawed their way back into the NFC race.

That's why missing out on the postseason was so painful.

The Panthers needed a win over the New Orleans Saints in Sunday's finale to overcome their 1-7 start and earn a chance to defend their NFC championship, Instead, they played about as poorly as they did during the first half of the season and lost 21-18.

"It stings because even starting out 1-7, down the stretch we still had our destiny in our own hands and we couldn't close it out." defensive tackle Brentson Buckner said. "It was there for the taking. We had that chance and just didn't take advantage of it."

The Panthers (7-9) were trying to become the first team under the current NFL playoff format to start 1-7 and still make the postseason The Saints (8-8) had a similar

uphill battle. They started 1-4, were just 4-8 a month ago, and coach Jim Haslett was fighting to save his job.
Then New Orleans won three

straight to head into the finale with its own chance to make the playoffs. With a win over the Panthers and some outside help, they were in.

crowded around a tiny television after the Saints' victory, watching St. Louis and the New York Jets overtime game.

As the Rams won to eliminate

New Orleans from playoff contention, Benson shuffled off in disap pointment as a heavy silence fell over the locker room.

"We just came up a little short," Benson said as he trudged past his dejected players. "We've got a hell of a ballclub. Anyone who did what we did this year has a hell of a ballclub.

Benson would not comment on Haslett's job security, and Haslett only wanted to discuss his disanpointment.

"It's a shame because we're probably the hottest team in the NFC right now and we don't get a chance to show off what we can do in the playoffs," Haslett said. "We dug a hole early and we couldn't get out of it."

The Saints, who had one of the worst defenses in the NFL most of the season, turned it up against Carolina to wreak havoc on Jake Delhomme.

Delhomme, who spent five seasons as a backup in New Orleans before joining the Panthers last season, had his worst day in Carolina. He was sacked six times, had two costly fumbles and completed just 24 of 50 passes. He did throw for 307 yards and a pair of touchdowns, but his failure to find a rhythm crippled Carolina.

"There is no explanation for it, he said. "I had some chances to hit some guys and just didn't. They did a great job of rushing the passer, probably the best pass rush we've faced all season.

Still, he had the Panthers in position to tie it at the end of regulation after two long passes and a hook-and-ladder set up John Kasay's 60-yard field goal at-

### Sunday's NFL stars:



### Quarterbacks

Marc Bulger, Rams, went 29-for-39 for 450 yards and three touchdowns in a 32-29 overtime win over New York. ■ Joey Harrington, Lions, went 33-for-49 for 346 yards, two touchdowns and an interception in a 24-19 loss to the Titans.

#### Receivers

- Torry Holl, Rams, had seven catches for 116 yards and two touchdowns in a 32-29 overtime win over the Jets.
   Muhsin Muhammad, Panthers, had six receptions for 95 yards and two touchdowns in a 21-18 loss to the Saints.



### Running backs

- Tunning backs

  Corey Dillon, Patriots, ran
  for 116 yards and one touch
  down in a 21-7 win over San
  for 116 yards and you show the
  \$375,000 bonus by rushing for
  more than 1,600 yards, He finished with 1,635 in his first seaon with New England.
  The part of the part of the part
  yards to finish with 1,433, breaking Corey Dillon's team record
  71,435 set in 2006.
- of 1.435 set in 2000.

  Lee Suggs, Browns, had 131 yards on 26 carries in a win over Houston, his third straight 100-yard rushing day. He is the first Browns player to do that since Greg Pruitt in 1978.

  Deuce McAllister, Saints, ran for 140 yards and a toucknin or 140 yards and a fouch or 140 yards and a fouch or 140 yards.



### Special Teams

- Special Teams

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# Gretzky fears multiyear stoppage in NHL

The Associated Press

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — Wayne Gretzky fears the NHL could be shut down for as long as two years if a labor deal is not reached soon.

Gretzky, the NHL's career scoring leader and part owner of the Phoenix Coyotes, said an "even more alarming" scenario could await the league if the lockout is not settled in the next few days.

"I'm scared we could be looking at a year, year and a half, two

### Sports briefs

years, not just three months like a lot of people thought back in September," Gretzky said during a news conference Sunday at the site of the World Junior Championships, in which Canada will meet Russia in Tuesday's final.

The NHL board of governors is to meet Jan. 14 in New York. The league rejected a union proposal and its own counteroffer was turned down during a session

Dec. 14. No talks are scheduled.

"From the standpoint of owners, players and fans, everyone is disappointed there is no hockey," Gretzky said.

Since the players are not paid between April and October, Gretzky said there may be little chance of any breakthrough during the summer on a new collective bar-

gaining agreement. "We're going to be back where we were last Sept. 15 come this Sept. 15," he said.

#### Miles hired as new LSU coach

BATON ROUGE, La. — LSU has picked Les Miles to replace Nick Saban as football coach.

Miles' hiring was announced Monday by school president Will-

The 51-year-old Miles, who led Oklahoma State to three straight bowl games, emerged as the top candidate Saturday, after Louis-

iam Jenkins.

ville coach Bobby Petrino with drew from consideration.

drew from consideration.

The LSU job opened when Saban took the head coaching job with the Miami Dolphins on Dec.

25. The school hoped to complete the search quickly to allow the new coach to immediately get involved with recruiting. The process was delayed because the most prominent candidates were in howl games or in the NFI.

Arkansas football coach Houston Nutt withdrew from consideration on Thursday.

LSU hoped to interview Jacksonville Jaguars head coach Jack Del Rio, but the parties involved were apparently unable to set up a meeting.

Miles is 28-21 in four seasons with the Cowboys, who made just one bowl appearance in the 12 seasons before he arrived. His biggest wins came against the Cowboys' instate rival, Oklahoma, in his first two seasons.

On Wednesday, Oklahoma State lost 33-7 to Ohio State in the Alamo Bowl.

Saban had the nation's richest college football contract, a seven-year, \$18.45 million deal he signed after winning a share of the national title in 2003. The school is completing a stadium expansion and a new football operations ceuter.

#### Angels add L.A. to name ANAHEIM, Calif. — Baseball's

Angels have a new name, and it's a mouthful: The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

The switch will "strengthen the

Angels' long-term economic health by enhancing the marketability through this metropolitan area and beyond," the team said Monday. But the American League

club's latest in a series of name changes could provoke a fight with the Anaheim City Council. Anaheim officials claim the

Anaheim officials claim the change breaks the terms of the team's 33-year lease with the city.

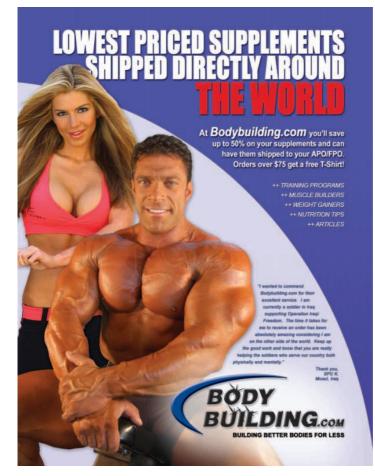
When the franchise began in 1961, owned by singing cowboy Gene Autry, it was the Los Angeles Angels. The team became the California Angels when it moved to Anaheim in 1966. In 1997, when the team was controlled by The Walt Disney Co., the franchise was renamed the Anaheim Angels.

### Australia tops Slovakia

PERTH, Australia — Mark Philippoussis and Alicia Molik outlasted Daniela Hantuchova and Dominik Hrbaty 11-9 in a third-set tiebreaker to give Australia a 2-1 victory over Slovakia in the Hopman Cup team tennis tournament on Monday.

Two-time major finalist Philippoussis and Olympic bronze medalist Molik dropped the opening set of the mixed doubles match 7-6 (11-9), then won the second 6-3. Earlier, in singles, Molik beat Hantuchova 6-3, 6-3 and Hrbbat defeated Philippoussis 7-5, 6-2.

Elsewhere, Germany upset Russia 2-1, with Tommy Haan and Anna-Lena Groenefeld winning a tiebreaker 10-6 to decide the mixed doubles against French Open champion Anastasia Myskina and 2000 U.S. Open champ Marat Safin.



# **SPORTS**



Stoudemire 'looked like Wilt' in scoring 50 against Portland, Page 29

# Lose . . . and they're in?

Vikings, Jets reach playoffs despite defeats; others win but aren't so lucky

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

The Jets, Vikings and Rams made it into the NFL playoffs Sunday.

The way they played, they might be out in a week.

New York and Minnesota backed in, the Vikings losing seven of their last 10 for the second straight season. The Jets lost 32-29 in overtime at the Rams, and the Vikings lost 21-18 at the Redskins.

But the Jets, who went 5-6 after starting 5-0, got in as an AFC wild card. And Minnesota and St. Louis both qualified in the NFC at 8-8, the second time that's happened; Dallas and Detroit were .500 playoff teams in 1999.

It all meant that the NFC's hottest team got left out of the postseason.

That was New Orleans, which won its last four games, three on the road, including a 21-18 victory at the Carolina Panthers on Sunday to finish 8-8. Carolina, which lost to New England in the last Super Bowl, won five straight games after starting 1-7, but finished 7-9 and missed the playoffs after losing two of its last three games.

"It's a shame ... we don't get a chance to show off what we can do in the playoffs," said New Orleans coach Jim Haslett, who may have saved his job with the late run.

Buffalo, which had won six straight, blew a chance to make the playoffs by losing 29-24 at home to Pittsburgh, even though the Steelers rested many starters. With the Jets losing, the Bills (9-7) would have made the playoffs with a victory.

The Vikings will play Sunday afternoon at Green Bay (10-6), to whom they have lost twice by the same score — 34-31 at Lambeau Field on Nov. 14 and at the Metrodome on Dec. 24.

The Rams will be at Seattle on Saturday

to open the wild-card round.

The Seahawks (9-7) clinched the NFC West by holding off Atlanta 28-26 Sunday. But the Rams won both meetings this season, coming back from 17 points down with six minutes left in regulation to win in Seatle 33-27 in overtime. Then they won in St. Louis 23-12.

The Jets will play at the AFC West champion San Diego Chargers (12-4) on Saturday as the fifth-seeded team. The Chargers beat Kansas City 24-17 on Sunday with backups.

New York beat the Chargers 34-28 in the second week of the season, but that was be-





Clockwise from above: Seahawks linebacker Isiah Karyvenski (58) celebrates as Falcons urunning back Warrick Dumi (28) is stopped inches short of the goal line on the two-point attempt that would have tiled the game. The victory gave Seattle the NFC West tiller; Vikings receiver Randy Moss, right, and quarrefranke Daunte Cullepper sit during their loss in Washington. Minneson both still reached the playoffs when Carolina lost to New Orleans; in Washington with the control of the Carolina lost to New Orleans; the William of the Carolina lost to New Orleans; the Carolina lost to New Orleans; the Carolina lost the Carolina

fore San Diego came together to win 10 of the last 12 games that meant anything. AFC South champion Indianapolis (12-4) will be at home Sunday in a rematch against Denver (10-6), which got in by beating the Colts 33-14 as Indy rested Peyton Manning, Edgerrin James and most of its

The top seedings in each conference were set before Sunday.

record-setting offense.

In the AFC, North champ Pittsburgh

(15-1) and East champ New England (14-2) will host second-round games the weekend of Jan. 15 and 16. Both won Sunday despite using backups; the Patriots beat San Francisco 21-7.

In the NFC, East winner Philadelphia (13-3) earned the top seeding, and South winner Atlanta is No. 2. The Eagles clinched home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs two weeks ago, then lost their final two games with back-







The teams with byes traditionally advance. But this has been a wacky season, especially in the NFC.

Minnesota, for example, ended up 8-8 after starting 5-1. Last year, the Vikings finished 9-7 on a last-second play in Arizona and missed the playoffs.

So, maybe making it with a loss will change things.

"This team's going to drive me crazy."

"This team's going to drive me crazy," said Mike Tice, in the playoffs for the first time in his third full season as head coach.
"You spend the whole week trying to

"You spend the whole week trying to make sure they understand that you don't want to get yourself too worked up or too uptight, and you don't want to go out and play like you can't make a mistake. When you play like that, you go out and make mistakes."

